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Sri R. Ramakrishna

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P.G.D'SOUZA COLLECTION

Mr.P.G.L'souza who was in the service of the Mysore Government was in direct touch with many Stalwards of Mysore like Sir M.Visveswaraya, Sir. Albion Banerji, C.R.Reddy etc. He has written about such people. Second portion of his manscript, "Stalwards of Mysore" is taken from his wife Mrs D'Souza, through Sri.Ramakrishna by the State Archives

importance of technical research and pleaded stating that it is within the power of Indians to undertake any industry however complicated it might be and that even students were quite capable of reaching the highest levels in all Engineering and Chemical Industries.

After my retirement my opportunities for coming into contact with Sir M. Visvesvaraya were very limited and so I lost touch with him but I always remembered the effect my association with him had on my mental growth and my political & and other ideals.

The experience of Sir M. Visvesvaraya's administration brought out one fact clearly that is no administrator however upright and high-souled and however vast his service might be, can never be secure of his position, but there is always an undercurrent of intrigue that slowly and silently undermines his footing, and if he is not a man spurred by prospects and emoluments he finds himself ultimately driven to a corner where he does not want to ~~be~~ remain any longer as he feels he can no longer give effect to his ideals and policy.

His Highness the Maharaja is the final authority in all matters and he has to maintain a staff consisting also of many capable men to advise him and as there have been cases of His Highness longer than newly appointed Dewans, if it is a Dewan who asserts himself this brings him into conflict with these hidden though powerful forces.

Sirdar Kantiraj Urs.
Dewan 1919-1920.

Being closely related to His Highness and the premier nobleman and the doyen of the local Civil Service, he was given a chance. He was subject to Diabetes and his ill-health stood in the way of adopting any bold policies. Soon after his

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appointment he went on leave and could scarcely work for a year after he came back. The large expenditure incurred on various schemes had begun to show its effects on the budgets of the State and the need for retrenchment became very clamant. Sirdar Kantrajulers having been connected with the old administration felt the great danger of depleting the Revenues and began embarked on a policy of pruning all expenditure. This naturally put a brake on all progressive schemes. He was keenly interested in Education and though the financial situation was not favorable declared all Lower Secondary Education free — an extremely beneficial measure for the masses of the people — Soon after his retirement he died and so great was his love for the people that he left the bulk of his fortune for Indigents and Child Welfare especially in the Mysore State and the Yamamba Charities are a permanent monument to his philanthropy and foresight. His experience also showed how numerous are the factors, that hardly realized, that control and undermine the work of the Dewan in the State — The various Classes that had shown some signs of becoming again an important class under his leadership began again to recede.

Dr. P. Rajendra Rao became second Member of Council. He had been Assistant Tutor to the Maharaja and had risen in the palace to the position of Huzur Secretary and then he made room for Sir Mirza and became Excise Commissioner. He was a peculiar man who took a great pride in doing English ways and manners. He spoke with a most affected accent and posed as a great authority in etiquette and behavior — These characteristics disqualified him from earnest work he wanted to get as much as he could out life. His style was a peculiar mixture

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His Highness the Maharaja is the final authority in all matters and he has to maintain a staff consisting also of many capable men to advise him and as these have been closer to His Highness longer than newly appointed Dewans, if it is a Dewan who asserts himself this brings him into conflict with these hidden though powerful forces.

Sirdar Kanthraj Urs.

Dewan 1919-1920.

Being closely related to His Highness and the premier nobleman and the doyen of the local Civil Service, he was given a chance. He was subject to diabetes and his ill-health stood in the way of adopting any bold policies. Soon after his

 appointment he went on leave and could scarcely ~~for~~ work for a year after he came back. The large expenditure incurred on various schemes had begun to show its effects on the budgets of the State and the need for retrenchment became very clamant. Sirdar Contractors having been connected with the old administration felt the great danger of depleting the Reserves and ~~began~~ embarked on a policy of pruning all expenditure. This naturally put a brake on all progressive schemes. He was keenly interested in Education and though the financial situation was not favorable declared all Lower Secondary Education free — an extremely beneficial measure for the masses of the people — Soon after his retirement he died and so great was his love for the people that he left the bulk of his fortune for Maternity and Child Welfare ~~especially~~ in the Mysore State and the Gumanbai Charities are a permanent monument to his philanthropy and foresight. His experience also showed how numerous ~~innumerous~~ ~~numerous~~ are the factors, ~~that~~ hardly realized, that control and undermine the work of the Dewan in the State — The Brown classes that had ~~showed~~ shown some signs of becoming again an important class under his leadership began again to recede.

Dr. P. Rajaveudra Rao became second Member of Council. He had been Assistant Tutor to the Maharaja and had risen in the palace to the position of Huzur Secretary and then he made room for Sir Mirza and became Excise Commissioner. He was a peculiar man who took a great pride in aping English ways and methods. He spoke with a most affected accent and ~~acted~~ posed as a great authority in etiquette and behaviour. These characteristics disqualified him from earnest work. He planned to get as much of as he could out of life. His style was a peculiar mixture

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The experience of Sir M. Visvesvarayas administration brought out one fact clearly that is, no administrator however upright and high-souled and however vast his service might be, can never be secure of his position, but there is always an undercurrent of intrigue that slowly and silently undermines his footing, and if he is not a man spurred by prospects and emoluments he finds himself ultimately driven to a corner where he does not want to ~~be~~ remain any longer as he feels he can no longer give effect to his ideals and policy.

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Sirdar Kanitkaj Urs.
Dewan 1919-1920.

Being closely related to His Highness and the premier nobleman and the bhogya of the Local Civil Service, he was given a chance. He was subject to diabetes and his ill-health stood in the way of ~~for~~ adopting any bold policies. Soon after his

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 appointment he went on leave and could scarcely work for a year after he came back. The large expenditure incurred on various schemes had begun to show its effects on the budgets of the State and the need for retrenchment became very clamant. Sirdar Karteejalers having been connected with the old administration felt the great danger of depleting the Revenues and began embarked on a policy of pruning all expenditure. This naturally put a brake on all progressive schemes. He was keenly interested in education and though the financial situation was not favorable declared all Lower Secondary Education free — an extremely beneficial measure for the masses of the people — Soon after his retirement he died and so great was his love for the people that he left the bulk of his fortune for Indigency and Child Welfare especially in the Mysore State and the Yamunabai Charities are a permanent monument to his philanthropy and foresight. His experience also showed how numerous are the factors, that hardly realized, that control and undermine the work of the Dewan in the State — The new classes that had shown some signs of becoming again an important class under his leadership began again to recede.

Dr. P. Raghavendra Rao became second Member of Council. He had been Assistant Tutor to the Maharaja and had risen in the palace to the position of Huzur Secretary and then he made room for Sir Mirza and became Excise Commissioner. He was a peculiar man who took a great pride in aping English ways and methods, He spoke with a most affected accent and would as a great authority in etiquette and behavior — These characteristics disqualified him from earnest work as he wanted to get as much as he could out of life. His style was a peculiar mixture

75. colloquial, trying always to produce effects
His poses deceived nobody, nor did he intend
any harm to anyone. He professed to know
every subject and had a smattering of Engineering
which he always tried to show off. He had
fairly average abilities which enabled him to
discharge his duties on the whole satisfactorily
for he was one of those wise men that never
lend out of their depths. Though fairly well off
with private means, this did not prevent
him from using his official position to his
personal advantage in one or two instances
which were made capital of both by Durga Bose
there being no love lost between them and Banerji who had
not much opinion of his capacity, though he liked
his social qualities. The Raj Komul Sens had become
very powerful and wanted to have one of their men
in Council - Mr. Mir Hamza Hussein. Mr. Raghavendra
Rao was given nine months ~~notice~~ leave & was retired.
He had a knack of getting on with officers though
I was no favorite of his and he found me rather
too independent in my views and so not at all
pliant. One of my Assistants S. G. Sastri
Industrial Chemist was a protege and favorite
of his. Though this officer was extremely capable
he thought he could exploit his knowledge to
his personal advantage. The development of the
Soap Factory was due to him, but he wanted
to make it one of his monopolies. As I looked
mainly to the interest of the State this made it
necessary for me to rap him sharply on his
knuckles giving rise to one more cause for
misunderstanding between Mr. Raghavendra
Rao and myself. Mr. Raghavendra Rao was
not able to achieve anything of a constructive
character as having been employed for a good
deal of time in the palace he had little adminis-
trative experience and the Excise Commissionership
is not an office that demands much
initiative. and requires a person to meet

96. constantly difficult and delicate situations and handle important problems.

Another Officer who had a great influence in Mysore and who was greatly consulted in all important matters was Sir Brojendranath Seal. He was a famous Bengali scholar, a man of vast erudition and encyclopedic knowledge and in whose hands the Simplified question assumed portentious proportions, bringing out his vast knowledge and learning. But this very gift of his unfitted him as an administrator. He was brought in as Vice Chancellor of the Mysore University and though he produced voluminous reports and made long Speeches he was not able to introduce any marked changes in the University or produce any radical orientation of the old basis the universities were developing. He was also made Education Member and had thus the fashioning of the entire Science of Education in his hands. Here also his mental characteristics stood in the way of his advice and guidance leading to most important and practical results - Sir M. Visvesvaraya had taken one important step in political reform by enlarging the powers of the Legislative Council and representative Assembly, but could not do much in the way of co-ordinating the two houses. The Mahomedans had been given communal representation and the backward classes wanted similar weightage, so a committee was appointed with Dr. Seal as the Chairman - The Report is a monument of political learning and knowledge and though it contains a masterly exposition of Liberal principles the proposals of the Committee were confined to introducing a few improvements without dealing with the crying problem of a people's democratisation of the administration and giving the people a more effective voice in the administration - The fact of the matter was that all people associated in the Government were not in support of any great changes, while such of us as were more in sympathy with the need of greater powers were looked upon

71 – ~~[illegible]~~ marriages and one official ~~[illegible]~~ petitioning kept ~~[illegible]~~ silent. Thus by and a few proposals such as passing resolutions and giving them a rather limited binding character and extending the franchise a little, the existing constitution did not undergo any revolutionary changes. The appointment of a single non official Minister at the time would have already satisfied the people and also decreased the violence of the agitations many of whom would have sided with the government. A convenient theory that it was sufficient in Indian States to have responsive Government i.e. Government should ascertain the wishes of the people and giving effect to them without investing them with any right to question the actions of Government or pass votes of non-confidence against them – Ministers. The main cause for some of the important non-Brahmin leaders eventually joining the Congress was this half-hearted policy of the Government and the extremely narrow vision of the advisers of His Highness who at all times was disposed to direct his subjects to the maximum extent and gave them rude powers. With the unsympathetic attitude of the British administration as a rule provoked Indian aspirations and their strong dislikes against any action in Indian States marking a new policy it was also not possible to introduce any revolutionary changes.

Sir Albion Banerji
1920 — 1925.

He had been associated with the Mysore administration for nearly four years and with his great administrative experience and training as a Civil Servant, he was expected to infuse more vigour into the administration and lighten the machinery and continue the policy of Economy & Development, remedying at the same time the financial difficulties into which the administration had found itself in by ill-regulated expenditure of the previous regimes. A Retrenchment Committee had been appointed with Sir K. P. Puttanna Chetty as chairman in the State - He was a colleague of Sir P. N. Madhava Rao, but had been retired with him as he had identified himself too closely with his policies - But he was a local man with great influence and was a leader of the Linagets the mercantile class in the State. As a Deputy Commissioner he was noted for his broad sympathies and had left his mark on the Shimoga and Kolar Districts. Though he was not a graduate, he had read a great deal and had a facile pen and a wonderful capacity to absorb ideas and clothe them in his own language. There being few persons among non-officials and retired officers, who could act as leaders he easily stepped into the place. He was appointed non-official Chairman of the Bangalore Municipality and had done excellent service as Chairman there - When the Bank of Mysore was established he was appointed as its first Chairman and continued in that capacity till the time of his death. Though not able to inaugurate any bold policies himself he would give them his considered support when they were once introduced and Sir M. Visvesvaraya had found him of great help in his Economic Schemes His knowledge of administrative details and general

grasp of financial problems, he had acquired in his official experience qualified him to be a chairman, but the committee itself did not contain any outstanding personalities who could claim to be financial experts. The Committee could therefore only suggest drastic retrenchments without making suggestions as to how the finances could be generally improved, so as to avoid similar pitfalls in the future and thus to restrict the progressive policy of the State, which financial conditions had halted.

Sir Pattanna Chetty was one of the most remarkable men the state had produced. Starting with a small appointment in the Railways by dint of hard work and merit he rose to the highest appointments in the State showing an admirable blend of diplomacy and tact throughout his career. He was able to read the signs of the times and associate himself with forward movements. He stood for election to the Legislative Council and was returned unopposed. He was Chairman of the Silk Mills started in Mysore, and unfortunately he was not able to control the Managing Agents who brought the Concern into a disastrous state. Here also his influence with the Government enabled him to get substantial aid to the Mills. Government admitted their obligation to prevent large concerns from collapsing not only in the sake of share-holders and creditors but as such failures are likely to have worst adverse effects on private enterprise. He however gave too much latitude to the men he trusted and lost in the case of the Silk mills and the Central Co-operative Bank he damaged his reputation to a certain extent by allowing serious irregularities. He was very charitably disposed and gave a liberal endowment towards

100 / the Town Hall which is named after him and the Cancer Pavilion of the Victoria Hospital. The Mysore University conferred a doctorate on him. He was my good friend throughout his life and towards the end I had to face the administration of the Central Co-operative Bank when his friendship coolest ~~and~~ being fomented by certain persons round him who were hostile to me. Nevertheless, I cannot but add my tribute of admiration to him as he was always prominent in all movements for the advancement of the people.

Sir Albion Banerji started office with certain set notions that his predecessors had committed blunders in many important matters, and it was his first duty to set those things right. He could not disown Sir. M. Visvesvaraya's policy, as being his colleague he was also responsible for it. He also found that Sir. M. Visvesvaraya's excessive fondness to press on the people their importance and his insistance on the Government servants being servants of the public had seriously affected the work and efficiency of the services. The financial returns in which the State found itself, he rightly considered as demanding his first attention, but his Primary policy towards many of the schemes into which the State had launched ambitiously against the success of these schemes.

He considered himself a great educational expert and one of the first subjects he devoted his attention to was education. Sir M. Visvesvaraya had called upon the Heads of Departments concerned with the improvement of the people to prepare a five year Plan as his goal was that every activity should show an increase of atleast fifty per cent. C.R. Reddy the then Director

101. General of Education drew up a memorandum unfortunately couched in rather polemical language, strongly criticizing what was being done and indicating his own views on the subject. The Government could have adopted his schemes but in their having been a patchwork of many brilliant ideas but lacking in continuity and coherence. Sir Almroth Wright then requested me as I was the Secretary for Education to prepare a historical extract of Educational policy and methods in the State and ~~methods in the State~~ and an exact description of the State of Education in all grades and with clear proposals as to the improvements to be attempted in the Primary, Secondary, and High School stages of Education, endeavouring to give a technical bias to education in all its stages. He wanted me to adopt all Mr. Reddy's ideas as far as they were practicable. I prepared a memorandum in consultation with the Dewan and it was ~~successfully~~ subsequently adopted by government and hailed as a comprehensive educational catechism as it were and was a word of trade Decree on the subject which was then engaging wide attention all over India. Mr. Reddy did not take kindly to the substitution of a new scheme in the place of his highly controversial thesis. This caused serious differences between them and led eventually to Mr. Reddy's resignation.

The Indian Institute of Science had been established by Jamsetjee Tata with substantial grants by the Governments of India and Mysore for scientific research especially in relation to industrial development. There was a feeling everywhere that this Institute

106 — the ... years ... to maintain it
102. did not produce results commen-
surate with the expenditure and had
not done much either in developing a
spirit of research or making any important
contribution to Industrial Advancement in
India — Due to his personal influence
with the Talas Sir M. Visvesvaraya was able
to infuse a good deal of activity in its work
but he had not tackled the problems in
all their aspects. Sir Albion Banerji again
requested me to examine the whole
position and prepare a note for consideration.
I examined in detail the purposes and
objects of this institution — to which extent
they were being fulfilled and what should be
the future policy, having regard to the new
Spirit regarding Industrial & Economic devel-
opments and to what extent Applied Science
should be developed with a view to encouraging
the Research work of the institution.
My note acted as a double-shell on the
authorities of the Institute of Science and also
the Talas who did not want any public
exposure of the inadequate results turned
out by the Institute. Enquiry was set to
a thorough examination of the working
of the Institute and it was laid down that
besides training students, it should
systematically take up Research into
Industries.
To his credit it must be said that Baner-
similarly threw his search-light into every
department. The P.W.D. which having been a pet
department of Sir M. Visvesvaraya had been
somewhat pampered. By personal enquiries he
brought some Officers who were guilty of
corruption to book. Similarly in Bezwada-Madras
where there was a serious misappropriation of funds

103, in the execution of some Major works the officer concerned was prosecuted, and though it ended in his acquittal, this strong action had a wholesome effect on the Service.

Banerji always endeavoured to keep up the Revenue Department at a very high standard as he had much special knowledge in revenue matters.

He kept up the Economic Conference. I continued still as its Secretary; but as the seat of his mind believed more in direct action by Government than consideration by committees, many of whose members were not experts, his dilatory treatment practically paralysed its activities. Decentralization also believed in rural development being achieved through Village improvement committees. Banerji placed them on a statutory basis practically subject to District Boards and here too the life these institutions used to get by a systematic enquiry and guidance of their efforts ceased, and they also became moribund. In order to enable these village improvement committees to have funds, the Mahalari Cess was assigned to them and they were also given the power to raise taxes voluntarily - Government also ~~raised large taxes~~ made large grants. A good deal of work was done, but as the collection of taxes was not stringent there were large arrears, but the assignment of Revenue made to them was so large that they began to have large funds to their credit -

Sir Albion Banerji kept the administrative machinery on the whole going very satisfactorily though he could not show much in the way of new schemes or developments. The Industries Dept had been the pet department of Sir H. Stonehaven. Sir Alfred Chatterton though a very able Engineer and Industrialist had serious limitations - His knowledge of other industries, besides those connected with engineering was very limited

106 – the six years for which he was appointed Director of Industries and Commerce in Mysore from 1901 to 1904. He was not in touch with Indian Capital and so he could not achieve much in the way of starting new industries. The Sandalwood oil factory had assumed huge proportions – The demand for oil was great and its marketing in Europe and other countries was a huge task. It is time one had a highly capable firm in London as selling agents. Chatterton thought this was a whole-time job and the grip he kept over the whole business enabled him to command his own terms. He became sole-time director of Sandal-wood factories. It was difficult to find a suitable man to be director of Industries. Visvesvaraya had tried to get a man in Bombay and was not successful so Mr. V. Rangaswamy Iyengar a brilliant mechanical Engineer who was in charge of the Water-supply Dept. was chosen as Chatterton's successor, Chatterton agreeing to give advice when required – Mr. Rangaswamy was the son of the famous lawyer Mr. V. Rajagopalan Iyengar, but his knowledge of Industries was very limited and he had no business training. He was exceedingly reserved in disposition and very slow to act. Beyond developing the Industrial Workshop in which he attempted the manufacture of some machinery like lathes, drilling machines etc. without much success and starting a Medal works which also proved a serious failure, he did little in the department. As a result of the investigations in the Institute of Science the manufacture of white lead was successfully accomplished. Chatterton interested Messrs. Martin & Co of Calcutta in it. Mr. Rangaswamy Iyengar helped its establishment. This industry which was

19[illegible] 103, in the execution of some Major works the [illegible] 105. eventually shifted to Calcutta as the same material had to be imported could not establish itself —

As I had been dealing with Industrial questions and had acquired much knowledge on the subject and stood well with several leading Capitalists in various parts of India I was offered the appointment of Director of Industries. I accepted it on condition that I should be allowed to see for myself some of the large industries in Europe and America and study the latest methods of Commercial and business organization. Hence I was deputed to Europe and America for one year 1920 to 1921 and was able to see many of the large industrial concerns abroad. My experiences of the tour will be recorded in a separate volume — I was able to visit in England some large industrial concerns in Birmingham, Manchester, Vickers Armstrong, Lewis, several Tanneries in Leeds Sales sugar refineries, ~~manufactories~~ manufactures of machinery. The firm of Sales Ltd and our agents Jeremiah Lyons were of great help to me The English Industrialist I found was not very keen about Indians interesting themselves in big industrial questions and spoke generally in a discouraging tone. I paid special attention to the manufacture of sugar machinery and paper manufacture in which we were then interested — The firm of Kerr Gram in Glasgow and Bowings gave me a great deal of help. Our Sandal agents I found were very selective and so I recommended a change of Agents. I also found that certain Railway machinery supplied by Kerr Stuart was not up to the mark and one grave made to lose heavily on the bargain had

— the 1st years to come to maintain their reputation capital bel the balance —

Labour was just at the time getting some what powerful and every industry was establishing conciliation organizations and taking steps to better the conditions of labour — even then it could be seen that the capitalists with all their resources were being forced to yield to the demands of labour step by step and the revolution that was placing labour almost on a par with Capital was making rapid headway — Collection of commercial information was not as systematic and thorough as in America and the U.S.A.
The British having at that time a dominant control over the markets they supplied, did not pay any special interest in opening new markets and ~~exploiting~~ exploring them
In France also I was able to see several industries due to the good offices of Leon Leuil Chairman of the French Chamber of Commerce who had large interests in heavy Chemical industries and offered to finance and take over the entire production of our Sandalwood oil factories. Germany having just been defeated was making strike. Even a casual glance was sufficient to show that the large armaments factories such as Krupps, Thyssens, Skones were ostensibly devoted to production of non-military purposes, they could at any time they could do any time come back to the old footing. The German Industrialists were much more attentive than Industrialists in England or even U.S.A and so I was able to see almost all large factories. I had also an opportunity of meeting some of the leading industrialists and Rathenau then Finance Minister considered to be the most powerful man in Germany and the time gave me a long interview - I was able to see the late Chancellor and discuss Works

107- In America I devoted [illegible] of my attention to study their system as organised by Mr. Perrin who had constituted the Iron Works for us obtained for me facilities to see every great factory. Mr. Hoover the Minister for Industries was very kind to me and gave me a long interview and so also Mr. Wallace who was Secretary for Agriculture - I studied the working of the Stock Exchange and that of some of the big banks - The Association with some of the great captains of Industry and the insight this enabled me to get into their methods of work was a great eye-opener to me, but I found it would require several generations to build up our Industries and Commerce - I was able to secure for some Indian representatives the lead of the Franklin Baker process for the manufacture and packing of cashew-nuts kernels and though this industry is not of much importance to Mysore the stupendous development of the export of Cashewnut kernels on the coast was due to some work I did in this connection in America -

On my return to India I found a great change in the financial conditions. The boom after the war had reached its peak before I left and had since then begun to recede - A number of large industrial concerns such as Chemical Works, Woolen and cotton mills, and even ship-building had been started - Most of them were based on inadequate investigation and technical knowledge and could not even reach the producing stage. There was reckless speculation in the stock exchange, so [illegible] enormous profits may have been made during the war most all swallowed up and the money market was not only tight but had got a great shock to confidence & stability, so when I came back I found that

18 for several years to come there was little chance of capital being attracted to industries and that whatever schemes we may have had in mind could not be materialized. This was a great disappointment to me and in my negotiations with foreign manufacturers ~~they were inclined~~ I found they were inclined to give some credit to the people if the State is backed by Government. It may also be stated that certain resolutions passed by the Congress which practically meant repudiation of Government loans, as when they came into power they could pay them only if satisfied that they had been in the interests of the country, had created a very unfavourable impression about the desirability of any foreign investment in India — The price of cotton which had risen immensely due to speculation had fallen very low. Dharwar is an important cotton market in southern India and may next to Bangalore the principle Commercial centre in the State The phenomenal fall in the price of cotton had brought ruin to most of the leading merchants practically, so I got Government sanction to a public announcement that Government would back the merchants, which had an immediate reassuring effect and when the temporary decline of prices passed off the merchants were able to meet their losses and recover their former position.

The Sri Krishnarajendra Mills had also spent a good part of their capital and were in difficulties. As this was the first large industry in the State to be started by the people of Mysore I induced the Government to go to their help by

109. of Mysore and for providing further financial assistance. This principle of Government assuming responsibility to help the people to tide over financial difficulties of a widespread character, not due to individual negligence or mistakes was an important departure in Government policies in India and Mysore deserves the credit of setting the lead. It has now been accepted as a necessary obligation of every Government and the disturbances and almost chaotic conditions the last war had produced could not have been met if Governments had not taken up complete direction during such extraordinary crises. The chances of my being able to lend ~~up~~ assist in the starting many important industries were not great due to the shock the numerous failures had given to faith in new ventures. I however got a Woolen Mill called the Kaiser ~~i~~ - Hind Mills started in Bangalore - I got a private gentleman to start a silk ~~factory~~ filature and also got him machinery from Italy to start silk throwing -
Sir Alfred Chatterton had introduced one Anderson oil Expeller, ~~But~~ the development of this industry was greatly retarded by a somewhat indirect discouragement due greatly to the influence of the parties that had started the concern. Mysore is a large centre of the trade in oil-seeds and Davangere is one of the most important oil-seeds markets. So I induced capitalists there to start these Expellers and as a result the firm of Brahmappa started one in Davangere and another in Mysore - Two other parties started similar Expellers Davangere. In Bangalore also people came forward to start more Expellers and as I was

112. mentioned the case of [illegible]
10. convinced that there was ample
cope for such concerns, & encouraged
them, though little attacks were made
against me both at the Economic Conference
meetings and also in the newspapers
Press — I also had a young man trained
in the manufacture of vegetable ghee,
in which Brahmapura was interested
but as my appointment had mean-
while been changed I was not able to push
the scheme through. The person I had got
trained in the Institute of Science, was
Mr. Vincent Narasimhan — He obtained
ready employment in the only concern
manufacturing Vegetable ghee, in
Bombay and soon after was taken by
the Tata oil Mills who manufactured a
similar oil product — under the name of
Cocogem. Resigning his appointment with
them, he floated the Mysore Vegetable Oil
Company with the help of Mr. K. Matthan,
which became a flourishing concern and
he started another concern of his own.
He was instrumental in getting similar
factories started in two or three other
places in Southern India — To a certain
extent this industry is due to the start
had made —
When I was in Germany I found people
using large single power-looms in
small units of not more than a dozen. I
brought out one of these units. Dr Alfred
Chatterton had already done some work
in this connection. Took it up and one
of my assistants Mr. R. Anantakrishnamayya
a man of great initiative had in con-
junction with a local merchant started
a weaving factory with power-looms and
[illegible] he took no active part in its
[illegible] technical

10 111 - and other helps - It became a successful
- concern and naturally he became a
e subject of serious attack as his action was
a not quite consistent with the Public
g Servants Conduct Rules. The matter was
o raised in the Legislative Council. In
le Industrially backward countries I said
d all that we have to see in such cases is
sh whether the officer abused his official
la position, used knowledge derived by
ob him in his official capacity or used
t Government materials or devoted his time to
E the business; and as I was satisfied that
w these conditions had not been violated and
c I considered the industry to be so important
t that some latitude should be given for
ab such developments. This explanation was
c accepted, and we took the opportunity — to
A hood the industry with that assault that before
Se I ceased to be Director, more than five
o hundred such Power-looms were in
operation in Dodaballapur Bangalore
Mysore and other places and practically
ved the hand-loom weaving industry.
The individual weaver has not much
capital. He is at the mercy of the purchaser
h persons able to use Power-looms have
li better facilities for capital and can buy
a great variety of products.

Mr. Anant Vasudev Kamargaon later on
became the Secretary of the Mysore Sugar
Works where he did good service and
~~[illegible]~~ on his retirement his services were
taken over by Bombay and Cawnpore
industrialists and he is now in helpful
Private Secretary to Dr. Ambalal Sarabai
Another good piece of work he did was to
convert the farm he ~~[illegible]~~ inherited from
his father into a model farm and it is one
of the most successful of its kind — like

12. mentioned the case of this officer to show that if I had not induced the Council to take a liberal view of the case, the country would have suffered, if he had been punished and his enterprise scotched.
Sir Alfred Chatterton had given a large number of loans for industrial purposes chiefly irrigation, rice mills, Gold factories etc. There were serious complaints that the machinery supplied was not satisfactory and it could not be denied that in the majority of cases the persons who had taken such loans instead of benefiting by them had become plunged in heavy debt. I examined many of these cases and got Government sanction to give suitable relief.
I also had new designs and methods of work introduced into the Arangement Technical Institute. As the Superintendent Mr. Alderton, though a good workman had no organising capacity or initiative - I had him replaced by a local man who under the guidance of Sir Murza and Sir Charles Todhunter was able to build this up into a good institute
On the Commercial side we published the annual Review of Trade and Statistics. We always had to introduce some new features into the Bazaar Exhibitions and the observation of these Exhibitions in England and Germany made me introduce several improvements. I also participated in the Empire Exhibition. Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Reading who were on a visit to Mysore had a preliminary view of these exhibits and expressed great admiration for the skill of the Mysore Artisans. These exhibits were also greatly appreciated.
The needs of Government did not

113. permit me to remain long in this Govt department, and before two years were over I was appointed Chief Secretary The work of this office had greatly increased and as they wanted some one with a thorough knowledge of secretarial organisation and methods and a reputation for great industry, I was appointed Chief Secretary in 1925

The first two colleagues of Sir Albion Banerji were Mr. Raghavendra Rao and Mr Hamza Hussein. I have already referred to Mr. Raghavendra Rao. Mr. Hamza Hussein was the most prominent Muslim officer — He had varied experience in the Revenue, Judicial and Police departments. He was very popular and though he was not a great patriot like Brahmin officers as he was considered too partial to members of his own community — his desire to be of great service to the country, the keenness, enthusiasm, great knowledge and broad-mindedness, he brought into his work gave him a good hold on the affections of the people, and also enabled him to take up a much more independent and constructive attitude than many of his colleagues — He and I were great friends and had worked together in establishing the non-Brahmin movement. His independence brought him frequently into hot-headed with some officer or other and he always took my advice on such occasions. In spite of his partiality for muslims he was on the whole very fair. The other two gentlemen who became Members of Council in Sir Albion Banerji's time were Mr. K. R. Srinivasa Aiengar and Mr. K. Chandy — Mr. Srinivasa Aiengar stood second in the first Competitive Examination for the Civil Services held in

116. itself more and more into a position where
114. the State, and had required the reputation of a good and efficient officer - He was known not out for Secretariat work, and Sir. M. Visvesvaraya had therefore to change him - He was a man of somewhat narrow and limited vision, rather clannish and not famous for any sturdy independence -

Mr. K. Chanda was a man of a different type. He was a good Scholar and a brilliant thinker, He was also quite a good administrator, but he was also too much disinclined to be a good administrator - He devoted particular attention to the cause of Adikarnadikas, and now - Remaining the whole time he was Dewan in that school.

On the whole Banerji had no difficulties with his council. They were not inclined to oppose him nor able to initiate any new policy. The State finances rendered it very necessary to carefully husband the resources of the State, and this gave no scope for new schemes - So the Government was mostly immersed in the ordinary administration. There was however a feeling that the Government had become somewhat stagnant. On certain matters Banerji laid himself open to misconstruction, and this had unfortunately affected his reputation -

My Association with Visvesvaraya inspired me with many of his ideas of the need, and potentialities of industrial development and my work for several years brought me into intimate touch with the Mysore industrialists in India. My subsequent official work however drew me elsewhere, but I never lost my interest in the development of industries Before I was

113. permit me to remain long in Mr's
Gore department, and before ~~&~~ two years
[illegible]
115. appointed Director of Industries in 1922. I
had made an extensive tour over the United
Kingdom, France, Belgium, Germany and
the U.S.A. As I toured as an Officer on deput-
ation on behalf of the Government of Mysore
I had no difficulty in seeing a large number
of industrials and discussing with industrialists
and Commercial men all the world over - In England
one could notice that except the suppliers of
machinery others were very reluctant to offer
any facilities to visit industrial concerns and
study industrial questions and though they were
invariably polite their attitude was such as not
to encourage any cordial co-operation - so I
contended myself seeing some of the big industrial
concerns like Armstrong and Whitworth Vickers
Metropolitan, Courtaulds Artificial Silk Lever
Brothers soap works and manufacture of
machinery in which we were interested
such as sugar manufacture, cotton mills
Paper manufacture, cement &c. Not being a
mechanical Engineer I did not derive much
advantage by these visits ~~though~~ I was able to
find out who were the chief manufacturers of
machinery in the lines in which we were
interested and where we could obtain the
best advice and how each industry was
organized. When I visited England it was a
time when Labour was coming into promin-
ence and pressing its claims for better wages
and treatment. I paid a great deal of interest
to the various schemes to improve the condition
of Labour and create a real spirit of co-oper-
ation instead of opposition that seemed to be
mostly influencing Labour then - Then it was
only the beginning of the struggle & now Labour
has forged so far ahead that it has brought

 itself more and more into a position where they could insist on their rights, instead of asking for small concessions. One cannot but wonder how moderate the demands then were and how helpless even then labour was. Conditions in India were infinitely worse - As Director of Industries I wrote a memorandum to show that unless labour ~~was~~ was given much more enlightened treatment even industrial production was bound to suffer - As there were several big industries even then in Mysore like the Kolar Gold Fields, the Cotton & Woolen Mills, the Railways, and Electrical Works, the problem was showing itself in an acute form - Mysore however showed itself ready to introduce ameliorative measures and followed a very liberal policy towards labour from the very commencement.

In France I found they had specialized in refined tools. On account of our Sandal-wood oil factories I paid some attention to the Perfumery industries in Grasse and found what a big industry the growth of essential oil plants like Geranium had become - I also studied the production of silk from the rearing of cocoons to the reeling of silk and the manufacture of silk and silk goods - I also brought out a domestic basin for improved reeling of silk as I found that in spite of large filatures there domestic basins were quite common -

I had however the best opportunities in Germany and had no difficulty in meeting the biggest industrial magnates like Reyssen, Stinnes, Krupps, the dye and chemical manufacturers The A.E.G. Company gave me special facilities on account of our Supara - electric works and were even prepared to undertake the change over to the 50 cycle frequency from

117, the 25 cycle frequency introduced by the International General Electric Company which greatly facilitated the purchase of motors in Europe. And the British Government would have been quite possible in those days to arrange with any big German manufacturing concerns to start industries in India on a joint proprietory basis. For obvious reasons it was not possible to be actively associated with any such move in those days.

Though Germany had been defeated in the war and the occupation forces were still in Germany the people did not look dispirited and were preparing for a return to their industrial and commercial predominance, which their defeat had temporarily intercepted. All the large industrial undertakings engaged in war manufacture had turned ~~[illegible]~~ quickly to the production of articles required for civilian consumption, and these factories were available when the Germans decided upon a trial of strength which we could feel could not be far off.

Though German discipline was most rigid, labour seemed to have been on the whole well-treated and worked remarkably heartedly in improving production.

The war was practically a victory on the Capitalists. Russia which had fared badly throughout the war was saved by the efforts of the allies. Though Stalin and others had given a strong stand and hold for communism it was not in a position yet to spread its message throughout the world: so communism had not yet become a serious menace.

In America which joined the war practically at the end, its ability to supply the needs of the allies unchecked had led to a

 great development of its industries and much accumulation of wealth in the Country. The standard of living was very high. There were indications of great prosperity marked by lavish expenditure by people of all grades in society.

I spent about four months in America; One and half months in New York and the rest visiting important cities like Philadelphia, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Detroit etc. Through the kindness of Mr. Perrin who was Consulting Engineer of the Tata Iron and Steel Co, and who had also helped the erection of the Bhadravati Iron Works I was able to see all the big industrial ~~works~~ Plants the large iron and Steel works at Pittsburgh, Motor factories at Detroit, Dupont's Chemical works, the meat packing plants of Swift at Chicago and several Paper and other factories. Senator Kellog who was one of the most influential men in America at that time introduced me to Mr. Hoover, Secretary for Commerce and I was given every facility to study each department in detail. Mr. Wallace who was Secretary for Agriculture was also very kind to me. I also met some of the prominent men in Wall Street like Pierpont Morgan, the Presidents of several ~~Banks~~ Banks. I was also allowed to see the Stock Exchange and the way in which Stock brokers in New York carried on themselves on a most gigantic scale mostly through the help of long-distance telephones was a most interesting sight. The organisation of industries was still primitive in India, but in America it had reached a high stage of development and the methods adopted in those countries could not be easily introduced here, but a study was most stimulating

119. On account of the high wages paid labour seemed to be contented and had not begun to strike on a large scale as it did later on. The Americans had very curious notions about India. Though many of them knew something of its civilization and culture yet they thought it was a very backward country — Though as Indians we are treated with consideration on account of the Negro question there was always the danger of Indians being mistaken for Negroes and this led to very difficult situations at times — It was however surprising to find in Pittsburgh Detroit, New York and other places Indians like Sahlatwala, Kotkwar, Bajpai and others having risen to very high technical positions in many important industries — I had also many chances of seeing some-thing of the Social side but the luxury and extravagance that prevailed everywhere was quite a contrast to the simplicity and poverty of Indian life —

The Cashew industry rose amounting to several Crores of Rupees in the packing and export of cashew-nut Kernels was practically unknown at the time Gandhi Baker &c. had successfully steeled the use of Carbonic acid gas in packing and preserving dessicated Cocoanut & dried they sold in small cakes. The Americans are great consumers of nuts and I suggested to the firm that if they used the process for preserving cashew-nut Kernels of which there were enormous quantities in India a very big business could be established. They got samples and carried out experiments and found the process very satisfactory and I decided to try it out on a large scale. Mr. G. S. Ramalu who was in America took up the question and collaborated with them with the result

122- Royalty @ three pies per pound on
120- that they agreed to send two chemists
to help in the roasting, peeling and packing
the nuts. The first experiment was tried
at Quilon and resulted in considerable loss.
I then suggested Mangalore and in
conjunction with Mr. Thakur of Bombay
Mr. Ramalu established a factory there -
Mr. Barker the chemist sent from America
was a man of great ability and patience
and worked out the manufacturing in
such great detail, that at the end of a
couple of years it was possible to ship large
quantities of nuts and they were immed-
iately taken up by the market - I shall
explain later on how we lost the business
though every year it continued developing.
As I had spent so much time in the study of
industries I thought it would be a good thing
if I could take one or two industries and
develop them - The export of cashew-nut kernels
for which I was to a certain extent
responsible, because I arranged for the use
of the property in India, gave me knowledge
to start with.

Mr. Ramalu returned to India in
1925 and he tried to establish the industry
in Quilon with the help of one Mr. Narayana
Rao and Mr. Pereira, but due chiefly to
mis-management the concern resulted in
heavy loss and Narayan Rao got rid of
Ramalu, but as he knew little of the
business he gave it up. Meanwhile
Franklin Baker had become a wide spreader
in the industry. Ramalu got a Bombay
financier Thakur to help him to launch
the concern - He had his brother-in-law
one Naik who had returned from America
after taking a degree in Commerce - As he
did not want to lose the concession they

121. Franklin Baker who had somewhat lost faith in Ramalu again offered to give him a chance as they knew that I was at his back. Ramalu had agreed to give me 1/3 of the business whenever I ceased to be in Service and wanted to join him — It became necessary therefore for me to intervene as otherwise the business would have absolutely stopped. So in 1926 I arranged with Mr. Eglinton Pais a coffee planter, who had considerable regard for me to lease a plot of land belonging to him in Arwa for a factory and there we began roasting and peeling nuts — Mr. Barker shifted his head-quarters to Mangalore — We got patterns of Kilns in which the nuts were roasted on the East coast and these were greatly improved by Barker. Nuts used to be imported with the skins on. This would not suit American trades — An elaborate system of peeling by hand had to be devised. After considerable effort a standard to satisfy the American market was attained and we began with a supply of 300,000 lbs. Franklin Baker had a monopoly thereafter of this business as keeping the peeled nuts without deterioration was the crux of the problem and Franklin Baker's process which was supported by a patent assured this result. As regards the Quilon factory, Franklin Baker thought that Ramalu would not be able to run it and entered into an arrangement with one Anderson to carry on the business in Quilon. He had the assistance of one Swaminadhan and under Barker's directions this factory was also developed — As the process had been given to us, the Quilon factory was to pay us a

122- Royalty of three pies per pound on every lb of Kernels exported —
The business arrangements we had made to export nuts were very favourable. The American firm had opened letters of credit with the National Bank of India who advanced 95% of the price of Kernels on shipping documents, the remainder of 5% having been reserved to meet shortfalls, defects etc. In this industry the bulk of the Capital is required for purchase of raw material. Each bag which used to then cost Rs 6 to 8 would give about 25 lbs of Kernels. The manufacturing expenses including freight etc. would come to about 2 to 3 annas a lb, i.e. it used to cost us about 6 to 7 as per lb. finished Kernels and the American price was about 8 as. a lb, so that on the Average there was a clean margin of one anna per lb As Kernels could be shipped in the non-monsoon season, nearly every week there would be a substantial re-coupment from the 95% advances, etc. The raw nuts are collected for about three months in March, April and May and so it became necessary to keep a stock of raw nuts. Outside the season the raw nuts are stocked by certain merchants in Mangalore, Calicut cochin and Goa, but they always speculate and unless a good stock is purchased during the season, the prices are unreasonably raised and a regular and continuous supply of Kernels becomes difficult. Mr. Thakur had agreed to provide the capital required for purchasing and stocking of cashew-nuts but as he had other businesses he often failed to provide the capital required in purchasing the nuts. Another factory was opened in Goa, where the nuts even of a better quality than in Mangalore

was ... already.

127 - on to New York, to have the contract
123 - are available. The labour here is very
unreliable. Between the factories in Mangalore
and Goa the supply of raw nuts according
to the arrangement made by Thakur were
not satisfactory. Franklin Baker having
asked me what the cause was why the
supply ~~of~~ was not kept up, I found the
chief difficulty was capital and I induced
them to advance monies also for the purchase
of raw nuts. They provided a capital
of Rs 1, 50, 000 for this purpose subject to
the condition that the amount was utilised
only for the purchase of raw nuts and
the factories should always have ~~either~~
either have raw nuts to the extent of the
capital advanced or the balance should be
kept in cash. I used to visit the factories
only occasionally as my interest at the time
was only to see that the business was kept
going until I was able to take it up, and I
did not undertake any financial risks.
Mr. Thakur arranged with some suppliers
in Mangalore and Goa to stock of nuts
for him, and paid them an advance of 25%
the balance to be paid when the stock was
actually taken over. This money he used for
his other business and so again the factories
had not sufficient raw nuts. So by
bringing pressure ~~on~~ to bear on Mr. Thakur
he satisfied Franklin Baker for the monies
they had advanced by offering certain
properties, but Franklin Baker thereafter
refused to advance the capital required for
the purchase of ~~nuts~~ raw nuts. An
unfortunate decision of the old story of shelling
the goose that laid the golden egg which
had serious effects on the business. There was
a firm in Mangalore by the name of
Pandurang Rai which was one of the big

124. also dealers in Coffee and other West Coast produce - Thakur Thode an arrangement with them for supply of Cashew nut kernels which practically gave them control of the business. Baker had gone back to America after finishing his term in India.

The firm send one Johnson as its representative. Though a chemist by profession he was a business man first. The American firm had realized their mistake in giving us the use of their process and even that they found this would stand in the way of their establishing the monopoly of a business they knew would eventually amount to millions of pounds. They made fabulous offers to get the process back at any cost and Ramadu's weakness and extravagance and his financial helplessness gave them ample scope. When the process was developed worked in Mangalore, I had cautioned Ramadu not to give anyone else an inkling into it, as it was nothing more than the introduction of CO_2 in packing. Another Kernel supplier Sloans managed to get into the good graces of Ramadu and found out what was done and began shipping Kernels packed in CO_2. Many other suppliers also used the process surreptitiously. Though their packing was not quite satisfactory it allowed these Kernels to go to America, and there they used other preservatives. Franklin Baker had not taken out any patent in India and the process could be used even without the packing outfit they had designed. They wanted us to get an injunction. I said we could not succeed. They sued a man in Madras and failed. So they found it difficult to maintain a monopoly and with the competition we had, they thought the best thing was to

127 - go to New York, to have the contract
125. put us out of business. Shakur had
mortgaged all his financial resources and could
not provide additional capital, so he had to
depend more and more on ~~Ramadoo~~
Narayan Kini. Johnson got into touch
with him and came to an understanding
with him, with the intention of forcing Ramalu
out. The contract with Franklin Baker
which was renewed once in three years
and though the assignment of the process was
by an independent agreement they
introduced it also with the three years'
supply agreement and contended that the
use of the process was limited to the duration
of the contract. I retired in 1931 and
decided to take an active part in the
business. Ramalu having lived in America
for a long time had become used to their
high standard of living. His expenses were
exorbitant and he took full advantage
of the process being in his name. There
was strong distension between him
and Shakur and through the mistru-
mentality of Kini, Shakur also was
doing his best to eliminate Ramalu.
Having received an assurance from Johnson that
he would induce the firm to deal with him - I
did my best to settle the differences but to no
purpose. The whole problem now was entirely of
finance. Neither Shakur nor Ramalu were in a
position to get any finance and whatever they got
through Kini was on most ruinous terms. It
was therefore impossible to continue the business
as it was. I was practically responsible for getting
the process, and though I felt it would be a
Herculean task, I decided to save the business
and develop it. Mrs. J. V. Siddanta also had made
at that time a lot of money in Tea and
wanted some further means of investment
was willing to finance the business into which

 we had to take her son Ramesh as one of the partners. Ramesh gave notice to Thakur terminating the partnership which meant that he could not use the process. Though Ramesh as managing Director was in charge of the factory he secretly vacated it and Thakur and Kini locked him out. With Johnson's connivance Thakur went on manufacturing and sending nuts to America — Meanwhile we opened a separate factory at Kulshekar for roasting nuts as the Municipality wanted to prevent roasting within Municipal limits. We also opened another factory in packing at Bunder. Thakur and Kini wanted to circumvent us by every legal means. So it became necessary for us to get an injunction to prevent Thakur from using the process. This we were able to get in the High Court. This made Johnson feel the weakness of his legal position. Thakur had given Kini Rs Hundies for Rs 30,000 on Ramesh which he negotiated in Bombay and a suit was filed against him. Meanwhile the 3 years supply contract had come to an end and Franklin Baker raised difficulties in renewing it. Meanwhile Ramesh had other personal complications. He had induced an American lady Miss Holman to come to India promising to marry her. Ramesh and Naik were living with one Mrs. Chambers in America. Mrs. Chambers also came out to India claiming to be Ramesh's wife and got into the bungalow we had engaged for him. As Thakur and Kini were very powerful in Mangalore, Ramesh did nothing to protect himself. I had to go to Mangalore to deal with the situation. As Mrs Chambers claim was baseless and intended mostly as a blackmail I had no difficulty in dealing with it as we made her quit the house. Ramesh married Miss Holman. It became necessary for me first to

127 – go to New York to have the contract
renewed and present Ramalu – This was one
of the greatest mistakes I made in my life
Johnson persuaded the firm to withhold
letters of credit and thought as we could
not dispose of the goods we would come
to terms – In America the General Food
Corporation which had taken over the
Sackewunt business from Franklin Baker
wanted to dispute our right to use the
packing machine and the process –
Johnson had flown to America for this end
and with the help of one Mr. Scott & the firm
found that it could not go back on the original
agreement to give the process and entered
into a new contract with us to take up
to one Million lbs for a period of 3 years
This fight in America brought on us
ruinous expenditure. We had given
Rs10,000 for his expenses. We had abroad
Rs66,000 due to us being the 5% balance
due to us on the Kernels that we consigned.
Without our knowledge acting on a power-of-
attorney we had to give him, he drew the
amount. This we came to know about six
months afterwards as he all a coup gave me to
understand that the amount was outstanding
to our credit in New York. With our small
capital this was a serious loss and as Ramalu
had no other resources and only wanted to get
more and more money out of us, I decided
that it would be dangerous to continue
my association with him. From 1926 to
1933 the business was kept up mainly
through the credit the concern got for our
account of my being associated with it and
Ramalu for a period of 8 years, used to take more
than 12,000 Rs a year for his personal expenses
and in this way he took Rs 1 Lakh plus Rs 66,000
he got from the amount to our credit in America

Meanwhile certain other complications took place in Mangalore which with the secret manoeuvres of the local representatives of the American Principals ~~to~~ made it impossible to go on with the business, eventually forced me to give up the struggle which I had to fight single-handed my associates leaving me to face the situation, ready to profit by my success and leave me to bear the burden if my efforts failed — Messrs. J. S. Saldanha had advanced in all a capital of about 11 lakhs of Rupees, on which apart from the profits we were paying interest at nine per cent per annum — About 6 to 8 lacs had been spent in the new factories and initial expenses and the balance in purchasing raw nuts, peeling and packing and sending them to America. The season during which raw nuts are produced is March to May. The business had become so big that that the Indian supply of nuts was not sufficient to meet the foreign demand. Mozambique is another big centre for the supply of raw nuts — Owing to the scarcity and the high cost of labour those nuts were scarcely utilized in those countries. The Indian demand created a big market in them and certain Khoja merchants in Bombay began importing them — I arranged to get a good supply of nuts one required out of them — These nuts are somewhat small but of very uniform quality. The Bombay merchants knowing of the large order we had agreed to supply these nuts on credit. These were converted into Kernels and shipped to America and the 95% of the price was drawn. Messrs. J. S. Saldanha and Mr. Alwyn Saldanha being the financial partners used to draw the money. Mrs. Saldanha also had a predominant

[illegible] introduced me to
interest in Messrs. A. J. Saldanha
& Sons, one of the biggest Coffee curers
and exporters in Mangalore - They had
sold nearly 3 Lakhs of Rupees worth
Coffee to one Mr. Soans and instead
of paying the price to Messrs. A. J. Saldanha
& Sons, he used it in speculating in
copper - The Price of pepper fell to low levels
and Mr. Soans lost a lot of money and the
firm had to lose the amount for which he had
been allowed credit. This hit Mrs. Saldanha
badly and to meet her other obligations she
utilized the cashew-nut proceeds and
nearly 1½ Lakh of Rupees were due to the
Bombay suppliers of cashew-nuts. My position
was very dangerous. Knowing Mr. Ramdas I
was unwilling to bring in any other financier,
and as the proposition stood it would have
been difficult to make new financial
arrangements. Johnson who was waiting for
a chance to smash us took full advantage.
Ramdas who had meanwhile turned against
me made Mrs. Saldanha believe that he
would go to America and make new arrange-
ments. I had put in myself Rs 3,000 which
I was likely to lose. Moreover that was the
amount to be paid to the Cashew-nut suppliers.
So the Bombay merchants who knew Mrs.
Saldanha had taken the money and had
properties agreed to release me - Although agreed
to keep back my capital of which I received
Rs 10,000 - This was due to the fact that the
Kalshikar factory was required by Pierce Leslie
and in selling it to them I got some of my money
back. Ramdas again proved a broken reed.
He had lost all credit in America. Mrs. Saldanha
was not able to run the factory. Thus a business
that could have yielded us Lakhs of profit ended
disastrously. But the ends we earned more fame
and otherwise, and the business steadily expanded

130. so that it has now shot up into millions of pounds per annum —

The importance of this business consists in the fact that every part of the tree and its produce is valuable — The juice of the cashew fruit is used for manufacturing liquor — It contains a very large percentage of Alcohol Experiments which I got made in the Indian Institute of Science showed that glucose could be made out of it — The shell oil is very useful in paints and as it is a phenol it is very useful in plastics — The Travancore Rubber Co had designed a machine to extract the oil without spoiling the Kernal, but they did not pursue it — Pierce Leslie took up the idea and the export of cashew nut oil is a big business! — I had secured a grant of nearly 2,000 acres on the frontiers of Mysore at Nagarali about 22 miles from Calicut for growing a cashew plantation. The soil was found to be excellent and the trees thrive well. Having severed my connection with the Manjalore factory I left not the organisation to carry out the plantation idea — The American firm the General Food products Co also changed their methods of business — they would not depend on any particular supplier and as the use of CO2 for packing had become common, every exporter used the process and the Americans ceased to interest themselves on the industrial side.

It was my idea to make this a big industry for the coast giving employment to a large number of people of our community. Nearly 4 to 5 thousand women are ~~employed~~ engaged in roasting shelling and peeling nuts — Then there were other industrial possibilities I have mentioned — Just as as the commencement the Americans

13/ spent all the money required for the preliminary investigations and perfecting the process of manufacture they might have continued working at all the side lines but ~~refused~~ Mr. Ramaley who was in touch with them ~~came~~ took their confidence as he did and ~~became~~ soon scarcely knew any of his partners, nor ~~apply~~ his mind wholeheartedly to ~~municipal~~ an efficient and responsible lines, and was most watchful in his methods. Anyone ~~shown~~ who took part in introducing the industries, the trouble I took the risks I ran are not known to many. I have always had the satisfaction of knowing that this huge industry was the result of a casual visit of mine to America.

It is one of the peculiarities of Commerce that while the pioneers make little or no profit and often sacrifice themselves in utter despair, some seed that falls on good soil remains and yields a bumper crop! The Americans only wanted ~~nuts~~ kernels and the pecks were not in much demand — they were either treated as waste or sold for little or nothing. Mr. M. Peres who was dealing in coffee and cashew-nuts on a small scale began marketing them. He has now become one of the big commercial ~~magnates~~ magnates of the coast, having extensive business in cashew-nuts, citronella oil etc. and has made a large fortune. It was a curious working in the ways of Providence that the two industries which I helped members of my community to start, viz — Tea and cashew-nuts are now in the hands of people — closely connected with me. The Mathias's who took up Tea are now allied to me as two of them have

 married two of my daughters, and two of Mr. Bris's daughters have married two of my sons.

It is very unfortunate that the cashew industry should was so important and which would have provided occupations to many people and could have been extended all over India without exhausting the market was not developed on a comprehensive basis. The Americans were only interested in the getting qualities and quantities required by them, and did not show much interest in the numerous industrial possibilities the industry possessed. There are no plantations of cashew-nuts. The tree practically grows wild from the seeds dropped and nuts have to be collected from the places where the trees grow — It is therefore a good subsidiary occupation for farmers not only to collect it their own need but also to get it from the forests — In this way a fairly large quantity is collected and the deficiency is made up by importing nuts from Portugese East Africa. If there were plantations for this industry its development would have been different. In them one could have been made of the other products such as the gums tanning extracts, alcohol and glucose from the fruit and shell oil. Whilst the Americans had developed a big market the Indian government were not all interested in the industry. As grey badly roasted and shelled kernels used to be exported to the Continent where it was in some demand if other nuts such as almonds were in short supply or commanded a high price. The business having been handled on one side by the merchants who supplied the nuts and on the other by foreign merchants that supplied European and American markets, they naturally concentrated their

special facilities for securing
133. attention entirely on ~~this business~~ side of
the business.

I had a plan for opening out a large plantation in which I had found suitable land and good also an outlet for the same but my difficulties with my partners and the determination of Frankfyn Baker and their successors chiefly their representatives in India to put control of business so that we may lose the monopoly we had prevented me from going on with the plan. Some of the representatives sent by Frankfyn Baker did not approve of their methods and were quite prepared to develop the business so as to comprise both the growing of Cashew and the preparation for the market Mr. Lucas had worked out detailed plans with me - Our idea was to get about 5 to 10 thousand acres of the best land suited to growing Cashew and form a combination with other groups besides Frankfyn Baker interested in the industry and develop it on a joint basis - I had made extensive exploration and found such land on the frontiers of Mysore North and South Canara which could be got on a long lease at a price of Rs 10 per acre and an assessment of Rs 2 per acre from the 5th year. Unfortunately Mr. Lucas got appendicitis in Goa where he succumbed to an operation - The Capital required was 10 to 15 lakhs - Indian Capitalists who only wanted quick returns could not be made to take an interest in an industry which as I said to my plans could be developed only in stages though it would be paying from the commencement. As I was then nearly sixty and my pension required about 15 years continuous and strenuous work I thought it best not to launch into the

1134, enterprise at that age — Even now in every nook of the industry is to be developed this is the only method

Claims and Achievements

As I entered public service at an early period of my life all my actions had to be subordinated to the main purpose of such duties.

The conditions of service in Mysore at the time were peculiar — The higher appointments were held mostly by Brahmins — There were two parties among them, the Madrassis and the Mysoreans. During Sir. K. Seshadri Iyer's regime the Madrasis preceded the most important positions but when I entered service the position had been reversed as the Dewan Sir P. N. Krishnamurthi was a leading Mysorean — It was very difficult for a Christian who could not depend upon any great official backing and who had not a covered place by competition to adjust himself to the circumstances. It became necessary for me from the very beginning to be very circumspect and to exercise great tact. But I showed myself equal to every position in which I was selected and also made friends freely among the different parties and the local people. I was able to discharge my duties fearlessly and without interference — I was also chosen for the Secretariat soon after my appointment and as I was in charge of the Revenue Department which was then the key department I had unusual opportunities to work up many important questions and take part in the formulations of policies. In my capacity as Deputy Secretary I was able to help in the abolition of "halad" an excise duty on Supari, an important commercial crop of the malnad,

" " " special facilities for securing
135. which along with the keener assessment
was creating the industry. This measure was of
great help to the weakened — I was also able to
suggest important changes in the famine policy
Relief works to provide employment to the people
affected by the failure of rains, were according to
the famine code to be started only after a series
of severe tests proved that the people were absol-
utely in need of such help, and Mysore was the
first to undertake measures of relief as soon as
there was the least sign of distress — This put
heart into the people and increased their
staying power, and enabled them to recover
themselves as soon as the adverse conditions
disappeared — This bold measure which was
avoided as it was thought it might lead to
much wasteful expenditure, proved by its
results to be the most beneficial measure
dictated by prudence — It has now been
adopted throughout India —
As rainfall has been generally uncertain
and somewhat scanty except in the malnad,
agriculture has been dependent from time
immemorial on irrigation made available
either by means of channels from rivers or
by the construction of reservoirs of varying
sizes, some of them capable of supplying
water to thousands of acres and others to much
smaller areas. All tanks that could irrigate
more than a hundred acres were classed as
Major and those below of which there are
thousands, constructed in times past as
Minor. Most of these are in an extremely
deteriorated condition. To avoid a repetition
of wasted on unprofitable projects the rule was
that new projects should not be undertaken
except as Famine Relief works where they
were unprotitable. This had practically
arrested the starting of new works — In order
to promote the construction of new works

2134. enterprise at that age — etc.
136 the Rules were modified and made more liberal and the people interested were also made to share the cost by a system of liberal contributions. The great ~~interest~~ advance the State has shown in the multiplication of such works is due to this liberal policy and has materially increased the food supply the scarcity of which on account of the phenomenal increase of population would have been much more serious. Mysore also gave the lead with the Kanambadi Reservoir. Hereafter such large reservoirs have become the Saphia and the Kalwakeia of India lies in constructing as many of them as possible — Incidentally I may mention that as I was rummaging through some of the old records in the Secretariat I found that more than a hundred years before a British Company wanted to undertake the Lakkavalli Reservoir and had the matter pursued with the result that it has been decided to construct the Reservoir —

As Secretary to the Economic Conference I was responsible for preparing Developments in the State and it is some satisfaction to me that the lines laid down under the Direction of Sir. M. Visvesvaraya and amplified by me have formed the model for subsequent plans —

India being an agricultural country the first place has been given to Agriculture, and the first stage was to double agricultural production. Agriculture alone cannot provide adequate employment or livlihood to the people and so the development of industries was essential. The scope for very large industries in a land-locked state like Mysore was limited. So it was thought best to concentrate on Electrical development manufacture of iron and Steel, mining superphosphates, utilization of forest products like Resins and woods like Paper —

special facilities for securing
137 – skills, rayons, perfumes etc – key industries
should be ~~taken~~ undertaken entirely by
Government and Nationalization was first
introduced in the manufacture of Iron and
steel and Electrical developments – If private
enterprise was not forthcoming Government
would be justified in undertaking even
medium scaled industry and in ~~some~~ –
~~taking~~ any case on account of the backward
ness of the people and the slowness of capital
there should be fostered by a judicious
system of bounty-aid. A scheme on such state
aid was ~~requested~~ suggested and is the nucleus of on
which this industrial development has been worked
out –

Indian life embraces the villages in the
main part and the villagers should be
helped to have cottage industries in addition
addition to agriculture. Special attention was
paid to banking and co-operation.

The working of the multitude of services was
examined and when it was re-organized
the point on which the Government of
Mysore laid special stress was that besides
pure research it should also deal with
the application of such researches to
industries has been definitely recognized
as a basic necessity –

A university was started for higher education
and as secondary to Government a good deal
a good deal of the back of pre-liminary
preparation and arrangement developed on
me –

Of the small States Mysore was fixed to
have its own Engineering school and College
and other occupational Institutes.

I also prepared a memorandum on behalf
of Government surveying the whole field of
education and preparing a scheme for its
expansion and continuous development.

In order to have a large number of the local people trained in foreign countries, a scheme of foreign scholarships was sanctioned - Though many of the things we had envisaged could be brought into effect only recently it has been a source of great satisfaction to me that the structure built up follows the original plan -

In order to improve the administration a scheme of Probationers was sanctioned and I was one of the Committee that selected Probationers for a large number of years - Many of the men then selected have made their mark in the service and its efficiency and reputation are due to the manner in which the Public Services were recruited - The aim in appointing Probationers was to select capable men at the end of their University career and give them special training and see that in the selection competent men from all classes were chosen - The competitive and representative character of the Superior service has assured the appointment of the best men from all Communities in the State - If the Committees are impartial and exercise their functions in a Spirit of justice as has been done in Ceylon it is possible to avoid nepotism and appointment of third rate men -

Having been brought up in Sabaragamuwa where there were a few catholic officials holding sub-ordinate positions and the bulk of the people were menial government officials or working as domestic servants or labourers, I knew how pitiable their economic condition was on the whole and I always bestowed some thought on the problem - Being employed in Government Service for the best part of my life I could not take part in

11, 2 — Special facilities for securing
139 - standing any large organisation to promote
their material and moral progress, that the
first Catholic Association that was started in
Mysore owed a great deal to my efforts, though I
could not take any direct part in it —
Sometime in the early twenties the first impor-
tant measure of political reform in the State
was introduced. This was preceded by what
is known as the Seal's Committee, presided over by
Dr. Seal, the Vice-Chancellor of the Mysore University,
A brilliant educationist and well-known
scholar in Political Science and Philosophy. It was
decided to give a more representative character to
the Representative Assembly and the Legislative
Council - The Muslims had obtained the right to
have separate electorates and Representation
in British India, so also the Anglo-Indians and
Christians. The same system was adopted in the
State - Though opinion is somewhat divided in the
advantages and need the need for such separate
representation it was inevitable and the
conditions that they prevailed and on account
of the conjoint efforts of the late Mr. Chandy,
Mr. Matthan and myself who held very impor-
tant posts in the state, we were able to have
five seats allotted in the Representative
Assembly and one seat in the Legislative
Council for Indian Christians - As there was
no adult suffrage at the time it was decided
to give the right to elect such representatives
to recognised associations and with the help
of Mr. Silva and the active sympathy of the then
Bishop Dr. Despatures we organised an
Association called the Indian Catholic
Association membership of which was open to
all catholics on payment of a nominal fee -
We also entered into an understanding that of
the five members in the Representative Assembly
three were to be catholics and the other two
protestants and for the Legislative Council the first

- person chosen was to be a catholic and in their elections the catholics were to get the preponderance, their numerical majority entitled them to. Mr. Sylvester Pais of Click-magian was chosen as the first Member of the Legislative Council and my wife as a Member of the Representative Assembly. On account of the personal influence both these representatives had among all classes, they were able to provide many a deserving case - though the Clergy were expected to give their guidance and help to the Local Committees it was not considered advisable that they should be actively associated with those organizations. For want of organizers and workers of outstanding abilities it was not possible for the Association to show much activity in the other functions it was also expected to exercise. It continued in this way until after the advent of the present Bishop. A new association has been formed differing very widely in character from its predecessors. The chief point of difference is the position given to the Clergy in the organization - I have always been of the opinion that the Clergy should morally aid & advise and should not take any active part in the functions of such organizations - As we form only a very small section of the population this peculiarity is not likely to create any serious difficulties or problems here, but Experience in other countries has shown that it has often brought the catholics into conflict with authority -

Two important matters in which the old Catholic Association was able to place its views before the Government were:-
(1) The place of Indian Catholics in the Civil and Military Services after its retrocession - (2) Reform of the Constitution

143 — Special facilities for securing
14 — in 1942 for which a Committee under the Presidency of Mr. K. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar was appointed.

As regards the privileges and rights to be secured it was urged on behalf of the Catholics that (1) All the Grants and privileges enjoyed by educational institutions in the C.P.& B. Statein should be continued. (2) Lands and buildings belonging to Catholic institutions should be continued and the validity of their Titles should not be questioned.

(3) As the Catholic Educational Institutions had pupils from all parts of India any special facilities they enjoyed, such as following the Courses prescribed for European Schools and to continue to be affiliated to the Madras University should not be interfered with.

(4) Catholics should have all the rights and privileges the citizens of the Dupode State enjoyed and should be given one representative. This memorandum was prepared by a Committee under the Presidency of Rt. Revt. Dr. Despatures, and was accepted as the basis of settlement.

As regards Political reforms, there was considerable agitation at the time about the introduction of Responsible Government and there was a considerable measure of support for it amongst the people as a whole but the Srinivasa Iyengar Committee was in favour of a modified scheme by which it was thought the people would be satisfied, i.e. by throwing open some places in the cabinet for them the persons selected to be recommended by His Highness but without much individual power or responsibilities. The then Bishop Dr. Despatures who had great face and was for peaceful and progressive [illegible] that the best course for

142 - Catholics was not to suggest any revolutionary changes in the Government and said that while as much voice as was consistent with the security and progress of the state was to be given to the people, the ultimate authority of His Highness the Maharaja should be maintained -

Knowing that it was not possible to put off for any length of time the ultimate introduction of responsible Government I proposed a scheme for introducing it by stages to give complete responsibility - except in regard to matters which with which the Govt. of India was concerned, defence and foreign affairs. Proposals exactly resembling those now made subsequently by the then Dewan Sir A. Ramaswami Moodaliar but there would not satisfy the people as they were far behind what the Congress Leaders were fighting for in British India -

Economic and other problems concerning Catholics are in no way different from those relating to the rest of the Backward Classes in the State - There are a few well-to-do persons among them but they are mostly from outside - The indigenous Catholics are all very poor - The Programme we had adopted for general advancement in which a good part was 1) Extension of Education 2) Technical and Industrial Training 3) Grant of land and help in Agriculture 4) Starting industries with special encouragement to Jaggal and Cottage industries. A good deal of the labour in mines and un-skilled labour consists of Catholics and the improvement of industries has also a substantial effect on them - (5) Grant of scholarships. A sum of Rs 100,00 was provided for scholarships to the Backward classes and as the Christians came under this category many of them got these scholarships but the grants were mostly from the Middle Classes

43 — Special facilities for securing appointments

As the bulk of the higher officers in the State were Brahmins and it was also this class that took the fullest advantage of the unique facilities that existed, there was an undue preponderance of this class in all ranks of the service which had created much discontent. I thought the best method of levelling up these differences was to take as a goal that at least 50% of all appointments should be held by non-Brahmins. I was able to get this rule first adopted in the Revenue Department in the case of Revenue Inspectors and it was adopted, eventually as a standard in all the Departments. This received its seal in the Miller Committee Report. Though I was not a member of the Committee, the non-Brahmin members took my advice freely and I was able to assist them in formulating their proposals & carry them through in spite of considerable opposition from vested interests.

To avoid any imputation of 'Communalism' my plan was to see that the Catholics got the full benefits of all measures adopted for backward communities and concentrate more on that object. Thus the card I was able to play in creating special facilities for the backward classes to obtain Government appointments and educational concessions indirectly benefited them also. The 50% minimum fixed for them in Govt. services and backward scholarships in the early stages was of special benefit to them — as though the bulk of the community was uneducated, the most highly educated among them formed a high proportion and the result was that a large number of persons easily secured appointments in Govt. Service, a fairly

large number in the Gazetted ranks and many of them were able to need the high cost of education from the scholarships they were able to obtain — In this way I may claim credit for having been indirectly responsible for the appointment of more than a dozen officers to the Mysore Civil Service some of whom have now practically reached the top and in the Electrical department.

The seats they were able to secure in the Representative Assembly and Legislative Council established their importance and some of these members notably Dr. Royan, Mr. S. Pais and Dr. F. X. D'Souza among catholics were able to make themselves felt in the Assemblies.

While Catholics who originally came from the Madras Presidency are mostly employed in the factories or in domestic service the local Catholics are mostly agriculturists. I was able to get the latter special grants of land among which I may mention 500 acres of forest land at Kuppadodee, near Arsikere in Kankanhally Taluk, an important catholic settlement and another 200 acres in Mugeshelli, Hassan District. These latter catholics were descendants of persons originally baptized by the Jesuit missionaries some 300 years ago who bear a remarkable affinity to the local Vokaligas and Jigalars with features and customs remarkably similar to them. The 25 acres of land granted to the St. Peter's Seminary near Malleswaram at the nominal price of Rs 400 per acre was selected by me along with the then Delegate Apostolic Dr. Mooney, now Arch-Bishop of Detroit and our Bishop Despatures.

Through the assistance of my wife the City Convent and St. Teresa's School where I able to get a grant of Rs 30,000 from Government for their school

146. She also helped the Catholic Girls' High Schools and Shimoga to be established in spite of much local opposition. Her position in life and friendship with the leading people in the State enabled her to assist Catholics in various ways - both of us while being considered noted ~~for~~ catholics amongst the people of the State enjoyed the reputation of being entirely free from Communal bias as we helped all classes impartially - Though her energies were chiefly directed in bringing up ~~the~~ our large family she spent a great deal of time in helping people of all communities and holds a high place throughout the State for her high principles and philanthropic dispositions.

Without taking undue credit to ourselves and in no spirit of vanity I may say that both of us always tried to do our best for Catholics, and in this respect we can claim some substantial share in promoting their improvement -

~~Hof~~ Chief Secretary 1924 - 1927.

I was unexpectedly appointed Chief Secretary owing to certain peculiar conditions. The gentleman who was selected for the Post on grounds of seniority was ailing in health. Though a man of high character he was not noted for any strenuous work. So the Members of Government thought that the office required an officer possessing great expedition and very industrious habits. Just at the time an impression was gaining ground that the Ministry was weak and very troublesome questions frequently arose and the Chief Secretary had to be ready always - This was not the first time I was selected for a post that required ~~incessant~~ unusual hard combined with a strong voice and determination,

numbers in the lesser ranks and
146 qualities that might be a great asset
or cause serious harm to the reputation and
future prospects of the Officer - And I was always
ready to take risks. The interference of the Palace
officers had become rather pronounced of late
and so it was a difficult task to retain the
confidence of both sides and discharge one's
duties faithfully and fearlessly. It was also
my peculiar experience during every adminis-
tration to dread very much the Commence-
ment and to look forward somewhat towards
the end and ad the change of the Administration
to be again brought forward. I was first
taken to the Secretariat when Sir P. R. Krishna
Murthy was Dewan and though I always main-
tained his regard as was evident that he
sought my assistance in 2 or 3 troublesome
questions pertaining to the Jahagir and
met me after retirement We became somewhat
cereal in our official relations during the
closing years of his office. This was due to the
Anyote Officers that surrounded him goading
him to put down the Madrassi element and
thereby creating a very unwholesome
atmosphere. I naturally kept aloof as I was
averse to all cabals. This was fortunate for
me as the last days of Sir P. R. Krishna
Moorthy's administration were clouded by
certain regrettable incidents which did not
concern me. So when Sir V. P. Madhava Rao
became Dewan he thought that I would be
his great ally in order and join whole-
heartedly in his plans. One thing he was very
particular about was that Sir P. R. Krishna
Moorthy should be thoroughly exposed and that
he should be discredited. As some of these
questions concerned the Jeelandar Jahagir
with which I had to deal in my capacity as
Under-Secretary, I found that the Jahagirdar had
a good case which when

147. default — due to his dilatoriousness in facing hard facts and ignorance of his own rights which the persons on whom he depended to study his case, very often failed to understand. As a Secretariad Officer I had made it a point to note upon cases entirely on merits and not to be led away ~~by opinions either~~ by opinions previously ~~expressed~~ without satisfying myself of their correctness and never to give a decision or a turn to a case to suit the views of Superior Officers though I knew this was a dangerous position to adopt I fortified myself by being absolutely sure of my facts before recording them and that I would be able to meet any arguments on the other side for certain controversies having shown that I always took a position that was almost invincible as a rule neither Heads of Districts nor even the Superior Officers cared to measure swords with me. This reputation that I had acquired at the very early stage of my career always stood me in good stead and saved me from any serious ~~of~~ attacks. The maxim "Fiat justitia Ruat Coelumi"

is not at all acceptable to any good politicians or diplomats but it is the safest rule to adopt to go by —

Sir Albion Banerji treated me with the utmost confidence and it was a pleasure to work with him as he understood things readily had very clear views and was very quick in decisions. So as far as the ordinary administration was concerned it was kept at a high level — When I took charge I found that Council work had accumulated to a very large extent and even ordinary questions which they were entitled in their files as was the tendency in the Secretariad, did not make much progress as

148. difficult it is in the multiplicity of references to separate the grain from the chaff. So I first applied myself to these files and had every old question cleared up in about two months time.

The re-organisation of the Secretariat was long overdue the questions having been pending for about eight years. Owing to financial stringency every proposal involving any increase of expenditure was smothered. So by examining that question carefully I found that by some cases retrenchments the extra cost could be easily reduced and I had the pleasure of giving relief to a large class of officials many of whom had been closely associated with me all through my service.

Due to the improved system of recruitment the standard of Secretariat officials was very high and most of them could hold their own with officials of other Secretariats in advanced Provinces. They had also a very high sense of duty and carefully guarded official secrets and there was really no need at the time for an official Secrets' Act.

Sir Albion Banerji though on the whole a just and impartial man was led to several errors due to his loyalty to his friends and impulsiveness. He had shown some unjustifiable concessions to an Excise contractor. Similarly he had given the Selling Agency of the Sandalwood Oil Factories to the Mysore Development Syndicate in spite of my advice that the contract was of too great a magnitude amounting to nearly half-a-crore of rupees annually to be given to persons who had no knowledge of foreign markets and whose financial standing though it may be good enough for the State would not enable them to carry out a business of this magnitude. My prophecy proved too true and shortly after Banerji's

149- reference. This firm was not able to account for nearly sixty-five lakhs of sale proceeds - Extraordinary as it might appear when the time came to assess the blame for this terrible blunder attempts were being made to throw the blame on me as I had then left the Secretariat, but my strongly worded note to which no one seems to have drawn notice silenced the attempts then made to make me a scape-goat - Similarly certain purchases of railway material gave rise to much criticism. There were certain mohamedan officers whom Banerji had considered incompetent. Of these Dr. Zahiruddin Mecci was one of the chief - This officer was a man of high principles but who hated corruption in any form. He suspected every Brahmin officer and spent most of his time in trying to expose them - Though he was good in collecting data he could not put them into a convincing report and so consequently delayed matters. He took a great deal of interest in village improvement and economic developments and devoted a good deal of attention to starting grain banks and developing khaddar. This kept his routine work always in arrears and as the Brahmin officers were also opposed to him they tried and tried to expose him whenever they could - When he was transferred from the Kolar District he brought with him a large number of files which he could not dispose attend to. His successor brought the matter to the notice of Government. He had unfortunately done that same in his transfer from the Tumkur District. Banerji wanted to take serious notice. The only way Mecci could be helped was by making him dispose of the files and through my help he was able to deal with them all in a few days time & so I prevented

so Banerji took taking any severe action against him; But Succi was dead without influence in the Palace and he was able to make an impression that he was an innocent victim of Banerji's prejudices.

Syed Taj Pasan also was another officer of whom Banerji had not a good opinion. He was an extremely able officer but was communal to the highest depths always advancing Muslims and terrorising the Brahmins. He however kept the good-will of all other classes and this enabled him to have his own way in the District though many of his methods were very high-handed and rod above suspicions of partiality. Banerji was not able to catch him, though he also found in the whispering campaign many of the officers by whom Banerji surrounded himself when he first came to the State, such as Ranga Rao, Jayram, and even Madhava Rao were against him. The result was that there was everywhere a feeling not at all favourable to him and his Highness the Maharaja had decided to change him. Three months before the expiry of his term I was confidentially requested to prepare the usual order enclosing his services and given to understand who his successor would be. This was kept as a mystery till the very last. There were some curious traits in Banerji which one would not expect from a free thinker of his type and extensive learning. He was a great believer in Astrology and greatly depended in its guidance Mr. Surya Narayan Rao the famous Mysore Astrologer was deep in his counsels. So also an official of the name of Sreenivasayyangar. Sir Albion Banerji had given notice that he would quit Balabrooie on the day after he handed over charge. The Devans are entitled to Military orderlies and so I wrote to the Chief Commandant intimating the date on which Balabrooie would be vacated. Under Astrological

151 - and as the military were withdrawn a day previously, Banerji thought that this was a way in which I wanted to pay off old scores. I was greatly surprised when I heard this as I had given him a send-off party myself prior to his retirement. Subsequently when I explained the situation to him he felt glad as he seemed to be anxious to retain the good opinion of my wife and myself - Lady Banerji introduced some new social life amongst the Officers and other leading persons in the State. They gave frequent parties, but I did not usually attend them. Our methods and ideas greatly differed, both the Maharaja and wife treated us with great kindness - After leaving Mysore Banerji went to Kashmir where I believe he was not much of a success as the Maharaja there was of a different type from that of H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, and the administration was full of Cliques and intrigues. From there he went to England and we used to hear occasionally about him airing concerning ~~at~~ antiquated views tinged with the die-hard mentality. During his last days in retired in Bangalore and agreed to become the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Committee of the Mysore Economic Conference which had been revived in the last days of Madhava Rao's administration. It was rather an irony of fate that Banerji who had brought the Economic Conference into a moribund condition in spite of my efforts to prevent it, and was practically responsible for its disappearance, should have shown this mark of death-bed repentance towards it. His ideas seemed to have greatly changed towards the close of his life and he tried to understand the spiritual side of other religions, especially Catholicism - He received some instruction from one of the Redemptorist Fathers in it and expressed a desire to him to join the Catholic Church. If such be the case - it adds one

more proof to age-long experience that in the midst of worldly power and its material enjoyments, we there even express open distaste in God, but when we find death closing on us and trembling at the mysteries of a future life we have a care to seek that Divine Providence which though visible in all our lives, had ceased to arouse our minds.

Along with Sir Albion Banerji, Mr. K. V. Srinivasa Iyengar had also been retired. As the policy of the latter was to follow the line of least resistance, and not to take any responsibility by any startling departures, he did his work with fairly ordinary efficiency, but did not show any initiative. After his retirement also he pursued a similar policy. Though he knew Sir Surya had a hand in his retirement he thought that it was to his interest to forget the past and show himself as one of his warmest supporters.

As the principal persons connected with "The Hindu" newspaper were his close relatives, this gave him special standing. Sir Surya made him the first Chairman of the Land Mortgage Bank. He was also the President of the Silk Association and became the Chairman of the Board and Director of the silk waste Spinning Factory started by Government. He was also appointed Chairman of the Constitutional Reforms Committee in 1935. He was a staunch Supporter of the Government as a nominated Member of the Legislative Council. This gave him ample opportunity for Public Service, but here also his policy of safety first (though it enabled him to do the routine work well as he did in Government Service) stood in the way of his showing any great originality or drive in these spheres.

153 - Sir Mirza Ismail

1927 - 1940

The appointment of Sir Mirza as Dewan was a well-kept secret and it had not become publically known till some four or five days prior to his assuming charge. His behaviour was remarkable to this extent. His was I believe the longest term any Dewan served in Mysore. There were many forces at work likely to cause serious changes not only in the State but throughout India, and the strength of these forces were not realized and to a great extent the bloodless revolution that resulted some thirty years hence had its origin during Mirza's regime -

Mirza was the class-mate of His Highness Sri Krishnaraja Wodeyar and was his cherished friend - At a very early age he was taken to the Palace and when grown up he soon became Assistant Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja. When Krishnaraja Wodeyar became had attained majority the Govt of India had given him the services of an extremely capable Indian Civil Servant from Bombay - Mr. Macmichie, who was his Private Secretary - Being a man of great calibre and a strong administrative type he exercised great authority from the beginning and this tended steadily to increase as the then Dewan Sir. P. N. Krishnamoorthy was somewhat slow and indecisive with a council similarly mediocre. There was strong party spirit due to the ascendency of the Madras party which had become very powerful under Sir K. Seshadri Iyer, but who himself towards the end of his term suffered seriously in health. The Council appointed during the Regency of Her Highness the Maharani Vani Vilas, Mother of Sri Krishnaraja Wodeyar, did not work harmoniously. As in other Indian States His Highness had almost autocratic powers

154. and as these had been subjected to numerous limitations in the sake of good government, there used to be a struggle on one side with the personal establishment of the Maharaja who tried to uphold his prerogatives and the Dewan who naturally desired unfettered authority for himself — But when the Dewan himself did not hold a very secure position and was not a man of exceptional ability the persons that surrounded the Maharaja could interfere through his prerogative with the administration — There was further the British Resident who exercised great supervisionary powers on behalf of the Governor-General — In these circumstances Mr. Macaulay became the most important personage in the Government of the State — To his credit it must be stated that he used his position to advance the interests of the State and infuse discipline and vigour in the service. His successors were however men of a different type. Mr. Campbell was a Madras civilian who interpreted his duties in a different sense from Mr. Macaulay. He regarded himself as the Maharaja's Secretary to help him with his work and not to interfere with the recommendations of the Dewan and Council unless they were palpably wrong or unjust; but the others that surrounded the Maharaja had different ideas. Sri Krishnaraja Wodeyar was a ruler of an extraordinary type, devoted to the welfare of his subjects eager to introduce schemes calculated to promote their advancement and determined to act in a thoroughly constitutional manner — Sir V. P. Madhava Rao who succeeded Sir P. N. Krishna Murthy was a man of strong likes and dislikes, ruled by most imperious and rather arbitrary and autocratic in his actions — He therefore gave

155 -- ample scope for interference by His Highness
Mr. T. Ananda Rao was a man inclined to
adhere strictly to Rules and personally averse
to any changes. His Highness who had by that time
gained considerable experience in Administration
was forced to take more and more direct part
in the Administration and as he was keenly
interested in the economic advancement of the
State in which purpose he had secured the
services of Sir. M. Visvesvaraya, this gentleman
had free access to the Palace to obtain the
support of his authority in all his schemes -.
In theory His Highness was only the final
authority but due to the new policy of forcing
the rule of progress that had been adopted in
the State, it became necessary for His Highness to
interfere more and more in the Administration
Mr. Campbell not being of an assertive disposition
did whatever was expected of him, and so His
Highness had to depend a great deal on his personal
staff. Mr. Mirza went to the Palace under these
conditions. He was personally devoted to His
Highness and commanded his confidence - He
was also devoted to the interests of the State and
fired with the ambition to make a mark for
himself. As a rising Statesman it was but inevitable
that he should be called upon to deal with
important administrative questions that were sub-
mitted to His Highness, or were initiated by His
Highness. The Dewans in the time being who were not
prepared to risk their positions by ~~criticising~~
criticising his authority found found it to their
advantage to have time on their side and so
by about the year 1915, Mirza had become a
very important man in the State. He was desig-
nated Huzur Secretary and through his duties as
such controlled ~~co~~ mainly in the administration
of the Palace properties and assisting His Highness
in ceremonial and other functions the private

156 – Secretaries to His Highness who found their jobs very comfortable and happy ones allowed themselves to be relegated to a secondary place since in nearly 20 years before his appointment as Dewan he was looked upon as the power behind the throne. Sir Mirza was very loyal to His Highness and fanatically devoted to his interests. He had also a high sense of duty There were very strong correctives to prevent such an adventurous position from being any source of danger to orderly administration – So when Mirza became Dewan he had the advantage of a complete association with the administration for over twenty years and intimate knowledge of conditions in the country and considerable popularity. As he was careful not to display his real power, there was not much envy against him, except amongst the Ursus who could not but look upon him as an interloper.

Unfortunately His Highness the Yuvaraja, His Highness's mother and Sirdar Kantharaj Urs had taken a strong dislike to him and the strained relations between the two brothers which clouded the last days of His Highness the Yuvaraja were ascribed to him. Mr. Mirza was always friendly to me, but in some special matters I seemed to have displeased him. Though he did not show any such feelings openly, I know that he did not trust me nor have the same regard for me as he to the same extent as he had for Mr. K. Chatthan. But during the two years I was Chief Secretary under him I got on very well with him and served the State to the best of my ability tackling many important questions. Senior Officers usually get impatient when Senior Officers do not make room for them and I had two such [redacted] waiting for me Mr. Rajagopalachari and Mr. R

159. [illegible] to other Government to [illegible]
157 - Madhava Rao immediately below me -
The former did not care for the arduous duties
of Chief Secretary. Mr. Madhava Rao was one of
the ablest ~~men~~ among the junior men - When
Mr. D. M. Narasinga Rao became General
Secretary he picked him out as one of the rising
men and got him made Efficiency Audit
Officer, a new office created by Sir M. Visves-
varayya to keep under constant observation
and check the work of all departments so as
to promote efficiency. As this post had a special
salary this practically picked him over the
heads of several others - There was a rule that
certain appointments in the Judicial Depart-
ment should be reserved for men of the Civil
Service and if duly qualified. Though I did not
take advantage of this Rule, Mr. Madhava Rao
got the benefit of it and had his salary
increased. When Visvesvaraya ceased to be
Dewan, Sirdar Kaubraj was sent him as Sub-
Division Officer of Sagar - Banerji then took him
as his private Secretary. After spending some time
as General Manager of the Bhadravathi Iron
Works he became President of the Mysore
City Municipality. This brought him into
intimate touch with Sir Mirza who was
keenly interested in the improvement and
beautification of the City of Mysore, and also the
Palace - Having been Sir Mirza's senior in service
there was some delicacy in our relative position
though neither of us showed it - Though I devoted
my best efforts to any work assigned to me, if
I disagreed with any measure that was proposed
I frankly expressed my opinion. So when the
post of Revenue Commissioner fell vacant I accepted
it, as I felt that with my knowledge of the State and
intimate acquaintance with the Revenue System and
its problems I could do more useful work. The
sedentary work had also begun to affect my health

158. By the appointment of Sir Mirza as Dewan the need for any intervention by the Palace was removed as he used to personally settle matters with His Highness, thus he was free from one ~~stumbling~~ of the stumbling blocks of his predecessors who had always to be on their guard in dealing with the Private Secretary. After Mr. Campbell's retirement Mr. Mirza had himself become Private Secretary. He was succeeded by Sir Charles Todhunter, a Madras Civilian who had retired as acting Governor of Madras — He was a man of pachomeal industry wasting much of his time on unimportant details with no sense of proportion, ~~exemplifying~~ exemplifying the Latin expression 'parturient montes'. Unlike Britishers he was a Colonial, I believe. He was not inclined to stand up for his prestige or authority and as the appointment was very lucrative in many respects he tried his best to-rest on very pleasant terms with the Dewan —
In this connection I may ~~mention~~ refer to some of the disadvantages of a separate secretariat for the Palace for administrative purposes, an evil which was found to produce such serious effects, that it has now been abandoned.
The Dewan and the Council should be completely responsible for the administration. To the extent matters are delegated to popular bodies such as the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council in the matter of administrative questions they will be subject to their control. In all other respects they will be responsible to His Highness. Though the advanced sections of the people were clamouring for Responsible Government the attitude in Indian States was strongly opposed to it and such movements were also discouraged by the Govt. of India. In Mysore there were means of ascertaining the wants and grievances of the people — The meetings of the Legislative Council also gave more

159 - opportunities to the government to explain their policies and obtain their support of the Council in all important matters - The government claimed that though it was not possible to introduce responsible government the State had a responsive government - This course naturally did not satisfy the people -

Sir Mirza by his training and traditions, though inspired by the highest ideals of what may be called benevolent Autocracy was not imbued with much democratic spirit. He carried his loyalty to His Highness to such an extent that he resented to the utmost the least encroachment on his powers and privileges and could not be made to concede that the people had a right to function the government. He was a staunch believer in the Divine Right of Kings and looked askance at any proposal to transfer power to the people to any extent. Unfortunately his views seemed to have influenced the Palace and it was a source of great regret to His Highness that though he had shown himself an ideal ruler doing everything for the advancement of the State that the people were still dissatisfied. Men like Sir Mirza could easily have made the path of political expansion smooth and easy and his intransigeant mind drove many of the supporters of the government into the arms of the congress -

Sometime in the first decade of the twentieth century there was a growing discontent in the Madras Presidency and also in Mysore at the Ascendancy of Brahmins and a strong non-Brahmin movement was organized in the Madras Presidency by Thyagaraja Chetty and Dr. Nair and others. Its leaders were Basavaya, Subbayya and Abbas Khan, Kalami, with the support of the non-Brahmins

58. By the appointment of Sir Mirza as Dewan
160 - Officers of whom there were only a handful.
Even higher education had been making steady
progress among non-Brahmins and there were
many qualified graduates among them who
found it difficult to obtain suitable Government
posts - This caused much agitation and persistent
efforts were made to destroy Brahmin ascendancy
with remarkable results in the Madras Presidency -
Members of Council in Madras were chosen from
non-officials and some of the leading non-Brahmins
~~were chosen~~ became such members - The Raja of
Bangal became the accredited leader of the
party and the Group mainly that characterised
them completely destroyed the monopoly of
Brahmin lawyers in Legislative Councils
In Mysore, as there was little chance for any non
officials to be taken to the Council important
non-Brahmins gradually veered away from the
government and sided with the Congress - The
appointment of a single non-Brahmin Minister at
this stage would have effectively turned the tide
The officials, the majority of whom were Brahmins
opposed such introductions tooth & nail which
were like us who advocated the measure were
like a voice crying in the wilderness. Sir Mirza
was a Muslim and though he professed great
impartiality muslims received extraordinary
advancement under him. This was to a certain
extent due to the Miller Committee Report. Muslims
were also included as non-Brahmins, and as the
number of graduates and men with good educational
qualifications were more numerous among them
than other non Brahmins, under the 50% rule
they secured a large number of these appointments
The ranks of Amildars and Assistant Commissioners began ~~to show~~ gradually began to show
their preponderance - This produced great discontent
and as Sir Mirza was a Muslim this irregularity
was attributed to him. He was a great believer

61 — in town planning and improvement the beautification not only of the Mysore and Bangalore Cities but practically of every town and important village. I had as Revenue Commissioner paid some attention to the question, but in Sir Mirza's time this became everyone's hobby with the result there was a great deal of activity. Ideal town improvement cannot be effected without extensive clearing and this very often involved taking away portions of land belonging to Hindu temples and very often the temples themselves. This was bitterly resented by the Hindus who attributed it to Mirza's Muslim sympathies and a studied attempt to bring Mohamedans into great prominence into the State. The Muslims devote a great deal of attention to their mosques which are usually kept very neat and clean with a nice grass or flower garden. Such mosques are scattered far and wide over the State and in places like Bangalore, Mysore, Kolar, Tumkur and even in the remote Malnad parts they always attract an outsider's attention. There were being repaired and white-washed all round. Mirza used to tour largely throughout the State and was invariably invited to visit these mosques which were decorated on the occasion. The common people saw in this signs of a coming Muslim ascendancy. There is a school at Sultanpet in Bangalore City which is a very populous Mahomedan Quarter. There is a statue of Ganesh in the Compound. The Hindu students wanted to worship this on a large scale and had made elaborate arrangements. The mahomedans were violently opposed to it and made preparations to resist. Unfortunately some of them seemed to have used fire arms which resulted in several casualties. This caused a great uproar in Bangalore. Students from all institutions took this up being also abetted by numerous hooligans. The Brahmins also were not favourably disposed to Sir Mirza. They thought he was unduly partial

—to non-Brahmins and many of the officers were alleged to have worked secretly against Rao Abbas Khan, the leader of the Muslims lived in Sultanpet and he was suspected to be at the back of the movement, the object being to restore some of the grandeur the Muslims had enjoyed under Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan. Thus it became mainly a contest between Mahomedans and Brahmins as the non-Brahmin leaders were practically sitting on the fence. The head of the Police was a Brahmin and the Deputy Commissioner was also a Brahmin. These were not conspicuous in their gallantry and were afraid to take strong action. Mobs of students followed by many of the turbulent elements in Bangalore paraded all over the town. They even besieged Carlton House, the Residence of Sir Mirza for 2 or 3 days. Bangalore City looked like a City under ~~Seige~~ Peace Parties were formed and sane councils prevailed and the disorder was checked. The embers however used to flame up in the Bangalore and Kolar Districts, where in several parts of Muslims form an important part of the rural population. Reports used to be spread sometimes that a Hindu Temple had been desecrated and at others ~~that~~ a Mosque, and the Muslims and non-~~Brahmins~~ muslims were in a spirit of great tension. Mr. Syed Taj Beran was the Deputy Commissioner of the Kolar District. I toured with him through all the places from which such reports were received and found things had been greatly exaggerated to keep up the breach. I was able to reassure the people and the excitement ceased. The head of the movement on the Hindu side was supposed to be Mr. Gopala Char a prominent merchant in Bangalore, who had also been President of the Bangalore Municipality, and became a Chairman of the Mysore Bench. He always struck

165 - Somers [illegible] [illegible]

163. me as being a law-abiding person, afraid to defy the law and the Government and though his sympathies may have been with the movement he had not openly exhibited them - Abbas Khan had made a speech and pamphlets were issued making some allegations against him. This resulted in a defamation suit between him and Abbas Khan. It was compounded with a very abject apology from Abbas Khan. This ended the movement resulting in a thumping victory for the Brahmins - Thereafter Sir Mirza thought it best to enlist them among his supporters and in this he succeeded with his usual diplomacy and tact -

Sir Mirza's regime was however characterized by numerous disturbances of the kind though the causes ceased to be purely local or communal The high favour with which the Brahmins began to be treated after this clash alienated other non-Brahmins from Sir Mirza - Though he professed great sympathy with democratic movements Sir Mirza had not much belief in them his ideal being a benevolent autocracy - As things stood non-Brahmins found that though they may get the subordinate appointments the higher posts were closed to them as invariably they were filled from the Service on grounds of seniority. Their leaders therefore made common cause with the Congress and though there was still a large number outside their ranks actively supporting the Government this was the reason on account of which they had lost ground with the masses. I always felt that it was a great mistake on Sir Mirza's part to adopt very strong repressive ~~measures~~ methods ~~against~~ on serious disturbances in various parts of ~~British India~~ Mysore synchronizing with simultaneous uprisings in British India - The casualties this caused among school-boys and many innocent people did not improve the state of feeling among the public

164. He however enjoyed the complete confidence of the Maharaja and this gave him a strength which none of his predecessors had - Committees were usually appointed to investigate shooting and other incidents in connection with these disturbances. One ~~of these~~ was a serious riot at Vidurashwatha a famous place of pilgrimage in the Goribidanur Taluk of the Kadur District in which the influence of the Brahmin Archakas and Brahmin residents of the surrounding parts was strong. In this case though the People Commission was near the spot he allowed matters to take their own course with serious loss of life - The Committee was presided over by a retired Judge of the Madras High Court named ~~Mr~~ Iyer even there for his devotion to his co-religionists and Hinduism and a Brahmin Judge of the Mysore Chief Court and a Christian retired Judicial Commissioner from Kodagu who had settled in the State and owned large Coffee Plantations Everyone thought the Committee was packed and results ~~showed~~ seemed to show that the public was not wrong. The Committee investigated but people could not know the real cause and to what extent political and other discontent had their origin in leading to these disturbances - In Sosale Chikarjun Taluk when a Police Officer was removed and the Amildar severely dealt with the Government used the medium of the Law Courts to punish these people but the belief had gained ground that the Government was not in sympathy with the Aspirations of the people and ~~it was~~ advised to put down with a strong hand any effort on their part - As the people were on the whole Loyal and the Congress rigidly adhered to its rule of non-violence, this discontent though daily gaining in strength revealed mainly in sporadic outbreaks and no organised resistance.

The demand for ~~political powers~~ enhanced political

165 - powers ~~that~~ the establishment in 1735 after I had retired) to the appointment of a Committee with Rao. B. K. Srinivasa Iyengar as Chairman. In the service he was not conspicuous for his knowledge of politics, and though he did his ordinary duties well had not much reputation for individuality or great experience. It was to be expected the labours of the Committee took a week in- ~~to~~ ocuous report raising a few planks to expose its discredited opportunities and showing no individuality that the Committee had realized the forces at work and the storm and wind afoot that were likely to burst sooner or later - On account of my advanced views and the vigour and boldness with which I was known to express them I was not in Sir Mirza's confidence and he treated me coldly as opposed to him In spite of this I read a memorandum explaining my views on the subject stating that it was impossible to put off the introduction of responsible government and that statesmanship demanded ~~that~~ some substantial concessions should be made, and I suggested that to begin with though dyarchy by its hybrid character was open to serious objections and difficult to work some beginning may be made by placing certain departments with the exception of Law and Order, Political and even Finance under those chosen from people who had the maximum support from the representative institutions of the State. I have attached a ~~note~~ copy of the note to these memoirs - This note I folded & threw on me further the vials of wrath from Sir Mirza. The Committee ~~&~~ proposing certain extensions of the franchise and adjustments in voting to prevent candidates from cornering seats by the use of plurality of votes suggested the appointment of three ministers from the non-officials there being also three official members including the Dewan - And these non-official

166 - Ministers were to be nominated by His Highness the Maharaja - They were not responsible to their constituents but only to His Highness - There was no power to pass votes of confidence but if this was done indirectly by constant opposition by any one of the ministers he could be removed

Though these reforms gave non-officials a voice in some of the councils of the administration and made them part and parcel of the Ministry they had no individual responsibility and the three non-officials combined, which was not likely to be the case - having regard to the manner in which they were selected - no strong joint action was possible - The result was manifested in the very first ministers selected - One of these was a Muslim Mr. Mahamood Khan, who was a prominent member of the Muslim League and a local advocate with moderate practice. He was likely to support the Dewan who was a Muslim on all occasions. The other gentleman selected was Mr - Gundappa Gowda - He had been defeated in the first open general election and had been introduced into the house by a manipulation of the constituencies, There were serious complaints of irregularities in the election and Sir Mirza having taken special interest in his election - There were also some investigations going on about irregularities committed by him as the President of the District Board - Though there were other non-Kalizars who by their services to the Public and influence in the State would represent even the Community more better preference was given to him as these persons had openly sided against the Government. To please the Non-Kalizars another officer Mr. Appaji Gowda was also appointed Minister These reforms did not please the Congress though it gave the Government an appearance of having respected public opinion. The non-official Ministers also did not show any marked individuality

167- When Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar became Dewan he tried to reconcile the Congress and get their agreement to a scheme of reforms administered by him seriously upon the reforms suggested by him were exactly on the lines & suggested & had indicated how Srinivasa Iyengar's committee had been guided, and if they had been accepted the sudden crash which brought the Congress into office and put the administration into the hands of men who had no previous official experience and brought no direct knowledge of the administration great deal of embitterment in the administration of the State and connected with a very unfortunate upheaval of the Government of Cochin, could have been avoided -

His Highness Sri Krishnaraja Wodeyar died in 1942, by his death Sir Mirza had lost a staunch supporter and this immediately weakened his position - It was an open secret that the relations between His Highness the Maharaja His Highness the Maharaja Narasimha Raja Wodeyar naturally started with some anticipation towards Mirza, but he assured him that he would give him a free hand as he had in his brother's time and expected the utmost loyal and faithful service from him - But differences frequently arose and as the new Maharaja had been a good student and determined to take his proper part in the administrative differences which naturally arose in all culminated in the sudden retirement of Sir Mirza - As I was not connected with the Government and had no access to any official or other records what I set down here is based I have been able to gather from various sources and I do not vouch for its being correct in every detail -

Mirza was very anxious to promote the development of Industries on a large scale in Mysore & the construction of the Ramanadi works & the Visvesvaraya Canal had rendered it possible for

168 - sugar - cane ~~country~~ grown on a large scale under the Reservoir and the establishment of a large sugar factory, which became a very profitable concern -

The availability of bamboos suited for paper pulp and facilities for transport due to the Irwin Dikes intended to carry fuel and ore to the Iron Works led to the starting of the Mysore Paper factory ~~and~~ at Bhadravathi. Certain other industries such as the manufacture of Ammonium Sulphate and Sodium Nitrobenzoate had also been established A silk waste spinning factory had been opened at Channapatna and a Vegetable oil factory in Bangalore.

One of the ways in which Government was expected to promote these large industries was to take a certain per-centage of shares usually ten per-cent and give other concessions such as acquisition of land water facilities, concessions regarding income-tax & others depending upon the special conditions of the industry - The credit of the State was high and the Government reserved the right to nominate a certain number of Directors and reserve powers of supervision and inspection of accounts. Notations of companies in Mysore under Government guarantee more attractive investments and capital had been raised easily for concerns launched with State help.

Sir M. Visvesvaraya was keenly interested in starting heavy industries such as Aero-plane manufacture, motor-car manufacture and had carefully investigated these schemes and also had interested Bombay financiers in them - The aircraft industry was first started. The moving spirit in this under Visvesvaraya's guidance was Mr - Walchand Hirachand. As the State was prepared to provide the land required a company was started one-third of the capital to be provided by the promoters one-third by the State, and as the Government

– of India was also interested in the Industry they were to provide the other one-third – The outbreak of the war gave this factory great importance as it afforded facilities in the repairs and assemblage of aeroplanes – The Government of India required Travancore's interest and had two-thirds interest in the factory. The location of the factory in the State has been of great use to the people of the State, as a number of them are employed here –

Almost from the time he left the Service Visweswaraya had been showing considerable attention to the manufacture of motor-cars in India and had undertaken an extensive tour studying motor-car manufacture and he came to an arrangement with an American company for a joint concern. Owing to the attitude of the Government of India who did not desire that any such industry should be started Visweswaraya was not able to give effect to the scheme. Had they did not anticipate any such difficulties in that respect, Loans and other facilities could be provided. There was no difficulty to raise the capital. Here again Government of India interfered – Should the proposed that ~~the work~~ this would interfere with the Loan effort they influenced H. H. the Maharaja not to sanction the Scheme. So it fell through. Meanwhile Sir Mirza had committed himself too far and so he resigned. His resignation was as dramatic as his entry into the high office

I was Revenue Commissioner for nearly three years under him. I had unusual advantages in holding an office like this. I knew every part of the State thoroughly and the needs of every part. The people had a high regard for me. Most of the Revenue Commissioners had regarded themselves as Post Office and did

 not show much initiative. The office was regarded as a stepping stone to the Council However looked upon the office from another angle - in how much a Sympathetic Revenue Commissioner could help the people -

Though there were large areas of waste lands the disposal of "Sharkhats" was very slow - The Adikarnatakas were in a backward condition and through the grant of lands and provision of houses would produce marvellous results in their economic condition, no one took an interest in this. The boom in coffee had increased the demand for new lands, but the demand was not utilized on the one hand to increase the production of this valuable crop and also to bring in the large extra revenue Government could get by the sale of lands. These lands were often given for an upset price of Rs 10 per acre - a price fixed when coffee cultivation just began After examining all the conditions I found Rs 60 per acre would be a fair price. Government accepted this.

Large areas are also available for cardomom cultivation in the State especially near Koligehar and Sakleshpur - I had them given out freely - I also managed to get large slices of land out of Amrut Mahal Canals and even date groves - Just then there was great demand for reserved lands in the Arsikere Taluk without sacrificing Government Revenue. I made large areas available to get several lakhs ~~available~~ as upset price - There were serious irregularities in the grant of such lands. I examined these grants and as they were very prejudicial Government cancelled them and made the Sharkhastdars take new grants paying a fair price.

Many banks had got silted in the Tumkur and Chitaldrug Districts and the ryots bunded

168 - sugar - cane ~~growing~~ grown on a large scale under the Reservoir and the establishment of a large sugar factory, which became a very profitable concern -

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– as the water courses to grow cocoanuts. These cases of encroachment would be brought by the Sabhai Takhta, but not speedily be disposed of with, the result there were large acres of unauthorised cocoanut ~~cultivation~~ gardens which paid no assessment. I found the same state of things in the Cloverpet Taluk I examined all the cases and where such encroachments did not seriously prejudice the supply to tanks or the mischief had gone too far, I settled the case making them pay a reasonable upset price for the land and back assessment.

In the Hudageere Taluk a good deal of water for irrigation is derived from Salapanagaes or underground streams. I found cases where the streams had disappeared and still payment was demanded, and the persons also used the water in places where it had re-appeared and had not been taxed at all – I dealt with the cases very comprehensively as a whole, to the general satisfaction of the Raiyats, and with considerable advantage to Government, in the shape of increased Revenue. I found lands under the Hiriyur Taluk – were overtaxed and as the place was ~~highly malarial~~ malarial there was a regular exodus of people. For Paddy cultivation people wanted water here in Summer, but by a strange perversity the P.W.D. insisted on their taking water in the Monsoon, with the result the lands were not cultivated, as the ryots would be busy with their dry lands in which they grew valuable crops like Cotton, Tobacco, Chillies etc. I got the Rule altered and encouraged cocoanut cultivation for which the area is exceedingly well suited, on a large scale, using the margins specially. The people were very grateful and several years afterwards when I was passing through the area casually, the people met me in large numbers and gave me a grand reception. I felt

of India was also interested in the Industry, they very happily found that I had brought so much prosperity to the Delta area -

Under the Khadra Anicut and Channel I found more than half the land not taken up, so by some concessions I had most of these sold. They have now become an important source of supply. I got Government to sanction more than a dozen Cases costing between fifty thousand and three Lakhs by making the raiyats come forward with liberal contributions which in some cases were about Rs 300 per acre

171 - In connection with village improvement we had found that the best results were attained by enlisting the co-operation of the people. We had tried to make one day's labour in every week compulsory, so that the cleaning of the village — keeping it in a hygienic condition, constructing roads and drains by the villagers themselves. The well-to-do people in rural areas were also prepared to contribute largely in the construction of school-buildings, village Halls, Rest-houses etc. and many of them were prepared to start dispensaries and small Maternity Homes by providing buildings etc. In order to stimulate this public spirit, titles used to be conferred on persons whose benefactions exceeded Rs fifty thousand and certificates of two kinds according to the magnitude of the contributions were also issued - These were presented on the last two days of the Dasera celebrations and led to a great deal of emulation among the people. In this way private munificence was directed to objects of public utility and by the time Sir Mirza had become Dewan it had become a custom throughout the State for private people to vie with one another in manifesting their charitable disposition by means of works and services calculated to be of public benefit. Sir Mirza developed this system and the numerous public endowments that came in his time were devoted to his personal interest assisted powerfully by local officers who found this a means of coming to the notice of the higher officers. In 1927 I was appointed Revenue Commissioner The Dewan used to undertake extensive tours taking a couple of districts each time, and in 1927 he chose Chikmagalur and Hassan Districts, I had accompanied him and as I had great personal influence in these districts, I got Dr. Chandra Gowda to donate a general Hospital at Chick Nagalur at a cost of nearly a lakh & half of Rupees. Dr. Nagappa Setty gave a Maternity Hospital

of India was also interested ;.
172 costing half a lakh — and some of dispensaries
the cost of building ranging from Rs 1 - thousand
to Rs twenty-five thousand each - Among these
contributors was a gentleman of my community -
by the name of Dewan Bahadur T.S. Mudlias
who owned large coffee Estates and had just
started a Tea Plantation. He donated a Dispensary
in Sanali near his Estate. Tea had been tried
experimentally in one estate between Koligedan
and Kalasa. As in the Koppa Taluk on account
of heavy rainfall and the washing away of the
soil coffee had begun to decline, the European
planters had tried to replace the old coffee
plants either by Coffee Robusta or converting
them into Tea Estates. Messrs. Brook Bonds
also acquired a large area in Kadamane
beyond Sakleshpur. These enterprises though
not as yet a conspicuous success had proved
the possibilities of starting Tea Plantations in
Mysore. Mr. Mathias was the first Indian
Planter of standing to attempt Tea - He wanted
about 600 acres of forest land close to his Estate
which did not contain any valuable trees
and which from his experience of planting he
thought would be suitable for Tea - After
great difficulty I was able to get him such
land and after this having sunk a large capital
and after having practically exhausted all his
capital, he was able to make it a success at
last after a struggle of ten to fifteen years,
and the Kelagur Tea & Coffee Estates are due to
his enterprise - More than fifteen years after this
+ long after I retired and a few years after his
death two of my daughters married two of
his sons and without my having any such
intention at the time I helped Girish I have come
to be connected with his enterprise! - Similarly
I had land given to the Kalasa Tea Estates Company
The European Planters that had taken up Tea

173 – Leading this not very profitable sold most of their Estates and these were bought by some Syrian Christians & Parsees gentleman who being connected with Tranquebar had better experience of tea. They floated joint Stock Companies, some of them paying good dividends. Mysore tea is somewhat coarse, but this drawback is made up by the abundance of leaf –

I think I have already referred to the circumstances under which I became Revenue Commissioner, Mr. K. Madhava Rao taking my place as Chief Secretary. Mr. S. P. Rajagopalachari who was Excise Commissioner was my junior and was very anxious to become Revenue Commissioner as that was a step passed to the Council –

There was a serious disturbance in 1930 in Cuddapah between the Mahomedans and Lingayats in which there was much destruction of property and some loss of life – As the sufferers were influential merchants there was a great deal of agitation, and instead of appointing a Committee of enquiry the Government appointed me as the Commissioner to the enquiries – My report showed that both sides were to be blamed but the reason why it was not nipped in the bud was due to the pusillanimity of the local officers, some of whom had fled from the spot. As probably such a report was considered likely to be harmful, it was not published, as I had also used my influence to restore amicable relations between the two communities. Soon after Sir Mirza went to England in connection with the reforms of the Indian Government and Constitution to which the Secretary of State had summoned a Round Table Conference. I was appointed to the Council in

174. That vacancy - The Head of the Revenue department is also the head of the Muzrayi dept - i.e. The department which superintends the workings of religious institutions, chiefly Hindu which enjoy large cash and land grants - As I was a Christian I suggested to the Govt. that these duties may be assigned to a Hindu Officer and that I was prepared to take up any other department - But the Govt. did not want to make any changes. I was not sorry as it gave me an opportunity to show how much good an un-biassed officer acting with absolute impartiality can do even in such a department provided he had no religious prejudices or bigotry - It was very gratifying to me that throughout there was much public commendation of my work as a Revenue Commissioner. I was given even more credit for the improvements & reforms effected in the General administration of these institutions. The Muzrayi department also deals with Mahomedan Wakf property and Dargas and as Mahomedans are naturally opposed to any interference by non-muslim agencies, they are usually left to themselves except when disputes among the servants or the Kazies or Mutwallies render such interference necessary.

Hindu ~~Temples~~ troubles in the Madras fall into two categories viz (1) Temples of all India reputation like Srinjeri founded by Sankara Charier which has one whole Taluk - the Srinjeri Taluk assigned to it and the Swami practically exercises complete powers over it Owing to this religious character the actual management is done by an agent - The agent at the time was one Srikanda Shastry a man of great capacity who was supposed to be in relationship with the Guru, not always in the interest of the Temple. There were loud complaints

76 from the holders of lands of the injustice and
oppression they alleged against the Mutt and
ilies. A Government Officer was usually sent
to the Jaheir for purposes of administration
but if the Agent was powerful he had no
could do much independent action. The people
ad no doubt represented in the Representa-
tive Assembly and as many of the higher
officers were devotees of this temple any
public exposure of the affairs of the Mutt
was not encouraged —

Then there were other Brahmin Mutts such
as the Sosle Mutt which had disciples all
over the Madras Presidency, a Srivaishnava
Mutt at Melkote also having disciples outside
Unfortunately at the time the Sosale Mutt was
in great difficulties, the Swami having left the
management to one of his relatives the
revenues being wasted to a large extent
Then there were smaller institutions like
the Hulbagal Mutt (Kolar District) Rama-
chendrapuram. In regard to each of these institu-
tions I had somewhat difficult problems
to solve

I did not consider it desirable to meddle
with the management of the Sringeri Temple but
whenever questions involving ryots interests came
up before me, I paid special attention to them
and often settled them in a manner dealing not only
with the specific case but examining the whole
principles and indicated how these questions
could be solved in the best interests of the Temple
and the people.

As regards the Sosle Swami, he placed
himself unreservedly in my hands requesting me as
Revenue Commissioner to take over the management
of his properties. I did him a loan which relieved him
temporarily of embarrassment. There were projects
for improving and enlarging the Temple. The devote

176. were not too keen to come to the help of the institution as the Swamii had to some extent lost their respect. I also made him choose a successor. So long as I was, Narayana Comm issioner he always gave good heed to my advice After I retired I met him again. He complained of the serious difficulties he was having with the Government. This was an important Madhava Mutt, having as its disciples some of the best brains in Southern India. Though they were all exceedingly loyal to the Mutt they were not able to exercise much influence over its affairs The Parkalaswami Mutt in Mysore occupies a unique position. The Swamii is the Guru of His Highness and attends to the ceremonial religious functions in the Palace - Here also the financial condition of the temple was bad. The Swamii having represented to me his difficulties were due to a sum of about Rs 3 thirty thousand which he should have got on account of the submerging and acquisition by Government of his land - I examined the question and finding that his claim was good I got that money paid to him, which enabled him to get the finances right. This Mutt always treated me with the greatest respect and acknowledged the service I had rendered to them.

On the Sulbagal Mutt the swamii was a minor He was an educated man, but not inclined to allow any Government supervision of his training On this he was encouraged by his entourage and so I prevailed upon Mr. Sabhiah who had great influence with him to undertake this task The Mysore Government gives a large grant to Sirigatti. They have an overseer and regular arrangements for the regular conduct of services - Though Mysore is not a Brahmin State the Mutt authorities were not favourably disposed towards Non-Brahmins generally, unless they were prepared

77- to spend large sums for ceremonies—
There was a Chattrum erected by the Mysore
Government which was entirely reserved
for Brahmins. By re-adjustment of expenses
I was able to provide a substantial amount
for the erection of a Chattram for non-Brahmins
Here so much time was spent in giving a title
that nothing could be done in my time. The irony
of the whole situation was that while the
European Collector could go up the hill, I
could not do so being an Indian Christian.
In Benares also the Mysore Government has
large endowments and a chattram;
I could only see that the people from the State
got preferences and were given help—
The Kalasa temple near Kudremukh in the
Mudigere Taluk is an important mutt and temple
It had large endowments and as it has a
large area of forests and lands suited for coffee,
timber etc it has a large income — The affairs
are managed by an official of the rank of
Shirestedar. The temple has its dharmadarsis
and numerous temple servants. I found it
had to its credit nearly three Lakhs of Rupees —
So I got a good water-supply provided and
spent about Rupees Twenty Thousand in building
model houses so that they may not only be a
good example but add to the beauties of the
place which being in the midst of some of the
most magnificient scenery in the State is a
very charming spot. Though the Charmadi ghat
is only about twenty miles from the place there
is no road and people have to make a
detour of nearly fifty miles. I mooted this road
to be carried through and had some correspond-
ence with the South Kanara authorities and
though both sides were convinced that this road
will open out this part of the country and be
useful it was not possible to enter into any

168 - sugar-cane being grown on a large scale under the Reservoir and the establishment of a large sugar factory, which became a very profitable concern -

The availability of bamboos suited for paper pulp and facilities for transport due to the railways intended to carry fuel and ore to the Iron Works led to the starting of the Mysore Paper Factory and at Bhadravathi. Certain other industries such as the manufacture of Ammonium Sulphate and Sodium Nitrobenzale had also been established. A silk waste spinning factory had been opened at Channapatna and a Vegetable oil factory in Bangalore.

One of the ways in which Government was expected to promote these large industries was to take a certain per-centage of shares usually ten per-cent and give other concessions such as acquisition of land water facilities, concessions regarding income-tax or others depending upon the special conditions of the industry. The credit of the State was high and the Government reserved the right to nominate a certain number of Directors and reserve powers of supervision and inspection of accounts. Flotations of companies in Mysore under Government guarantee were attractive investments and capital had been raised easily for concerns launched with State help.

Sir M. Visvesvaraya was keenly interested in starting heavy industries such as Aero-plane manufacture, Motor-car manufacture and had carefully investigated these schemes and also had interested Bombay financiers in them - The aircraft industry was first started. The moving spirit in this under Visvesvaraya's guidance was Mr - Walchand Hirachand. As the State was prepared to provide the land required a company was started one-third of the capital to be provided by the promoters one-third by the State, and as the Government

ap the water courses to grow cocoanuts. These cases of encroachment would be brought by the Vakkar Takhta, but not speedily be disposed of with, the result there were large acres of unauthorised cocoanut ~~cultivation~~ gardens which paid no assessment. I found the same state of things in the Cloverpet Taluk. I examined all the cases and where such encroachments did not seriously prejudice the supply to tanks or the wishes had gone too far, I settled the case making them pay a reasonable, upset price for the land and back assessment.

In the Hindagere Taluk a good deal of water for irrigation is derived from Salapanagaes or underground streams. I found cases where the streams had disappeared and still payment was demanded, and the persons also used the water in places where it had re-appeared and had not been taxed at all - I dealt with the cases very comprehensively as a whole, to the general satisfaction of the Raiyats, and with considerable advantage to Government, in the shape of increased Revenue. I found lands under the Aranikere Reservoir - a large reservoir in the Hiriyur Taluk - were overtaxed and as the place was highly ~~malarial~~ malarial there was a regular exodus of people. For Paddy cultivation people wanted water there in Summer but by a strange perversity the P.W.D. insisted on their taking water in the Monsoon, with the result the lands were not cultivated, as the ryots would not be busy with their dry lands in which they grew valuable crops like Cotton, Tobacco, chillies etc. I got the Rule altered and encouraged cocoanut cultivation for which the area is exceedingly well suited, on a large scale, using the margins specially. The people were very grateful and several years afterwards when I was passing through the area casually, the people met me in large numbers and gave me a grand reception. I felt

16 168. not show much initiative. The officer was
170 – very happy to find that I had brought so much
cooperation to the Velekolale area –

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I found more than half the land not taken up,
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...k. Shri C...
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178, costing half a lakh — and some in dispensaries the cost of building ranging from Rs fifty thousand to Rs twenty-five thousand each — Among these contributors was a gentleman of my community by the name of Devan Bahadur T.S. Mathias who owned large coffee Estates and had just started a Tea Plantation. He donated a Dispensary in Davali near his Estate. Tea had been tried experimentally in one estate between Koticedar and Kalasa. As in the Koppa Taluk on account of heavy rainfall and the washing away of the soil, coffee had begun to decline, the European planters had tried to replace the old coffee plants either by Coffee Robusta or converting them into Tea Estates. Messers. Brook Bonds also acquired a large area in Kadamane beyond Sakleshpur. These enterprises though not as yet a conspicuous success had proved the possibilities of starting Tea Plantations in Mysore. Mr. Mathias was the first Indian Planter of standing to attempt Tea — He wanted about 600 acres of forest land close to his Estate which did not contain any valuable trees and which from his experience of planting he thought would be suitable for Tea. After great difficulty I was able to get him such land and after his having sunk a large capital and after having practically exhausted all his capital, he was able to make it a success at last after a struggle of ten to fifteen years, and the Kelagur Tea & Coffee Estates are due to his enterprise. More than fifteen years after this & long after I retired and a few years after his death two of my daughters married two of his sons and without my having any such intention at the time I helped him, I have come to be connected with his enterprise. Similarly I had land given to the Kalasa Tea Estates Company the European Planters that had taken up Tea

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There was a serious disturbance in 1930 Penang between the Mahomedans and Lingayats in which there was much destruction of property and some loss of life – As the sufferers were influential merchants there was a great deal of agitation, and instead of appointing a Committee of enquiry the Government appointed me as the Commissioner for the enquiries – My report showed that both sides were to be blamed but the reason why it was not missed in the bud was due to the pusillanimity of the local officers, some of whom had fled from the spot. As probably such a report was considered likely to be harmful, it was not published, as it had also used my influence to restore amicable relations between the two communities. Soon after Sir Mirza went to England in connection with the reforms of the Indian Government and Constitution for which the Secretary of State had summoned a Round Table Conference. I was appointed to the Council in

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Krishna Collection

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When there were other Brahmin Mutts such as the Sode Mutt which had disciples all over the Madras Presidency, a Srivaishnava Mutt at Melkote also having disciples outside unfortunately at the time the Sode Mutt was in great difficulties, the Swami having left the management to one of his relatives the revenues being wasted to a large extent. Then there were smaller misdirections like the Anubagal Mutt (Kolar District) Ramachendrapur. In regard to each of these misdirections I had somewhat difficult problems to solve.

I did not consider it desirable to meddle with the management of the Sringeri Temple but whenever questions involving religious interests came up before me, I paid special attention to them and often settled them in a manner dealing not only with the specific case but examining the whole principles and indicated how these questions could be solved in the best interests of the Temple and the people.

As regards the Sode Swami, he placed himself unreservedly in my hands requesting me as Revenue Commissioner to take over the management of his properties. I got him a loan which relieved him temporarily of embarrassment. There were projects for improving and enlarging the Temple. The devotees of

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Kanara Collection

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The Kalasa Temple near Kudremukh in the Mudigere Taluk is an important Matha and Temple. It had large endowments and as it has a large area of forests and lands suited for coffee, timber etc it has a large income - The affairs are managed by an official of the rank of Shirestadar. The Temple has its dharmadarsis and numerous temple servants. I found it had to its credit nearly three Lakhs of Rupees - So I got a good water-supply provided and spent about Rupees Twenty Thousand in building model houses so that they may not only be a good example, but add to the beauties of the place which being in the midst of some of the most magnificient scenery in that State is a very charming spot. Though the Charmadi ghat is only about twenty miles from the place there is no road - and people have to make a detour of nearly fifty miles. I wanted this road to be carried through and had some correspondence with the South Kanara authorities and though both sides were convinced that this road will open out this part of the country and be very useful, it was not possible to enter into any

172 coorg has a lake — and some 15 dispensaries 78 — financial arrangement. This is however a necessary link —

About 20 miles from Kalasa is the famous Kudremukh. As it was inaccessable though its advantages otherwise as a Hill Station are excellent it has not been possible to develop it. I had given some help to the St. Aloysius College authorities to have a house on the slope and other members in Seemane and they had constructed a nice building which they subsequently abandoned as they found it difficult to maintain. The Mysore Government also would not take it as they thought it might be a white elephant. The Gangavathie, the source of the Tunga and Bhadra rivers is in these hills on the Koppa side about 25 miles away. The jungle tracts leading to this is one of the most picturesque tracts I have ever seen anywhere — Going across one can meet herds of Bison, Sambar and spotted deer and other game. It is a pity that this part of the State is not opened out so as to attract Tourists. I also found there were valuable coffee estates cut off from the main road as a small section had not been undertaken — I got this sanctioned.

Kigga is another Brahmin temple close to Sringeri. It also has large endowments chiefly wet and garden lands. As it is also inaccessible its affairs are generally neglected. I made a regular settlement and confirmed a large area of the lands to the cultivating tenants as the nominal holders were either dead — or quite indifferent.

Among Lingayat Mutts the most important are (1) The Ujjini Mutt and (2) The Balehonnur Mutt. The Ujjini Mutt is a very wealthy Mutt having a large number of Lingayat Merchants doing

Krishna Collection

... of his footing was unlikely.

179 — business both as Dewan and outside the State. The Swami of the Mutt is very enlightened and has been using the resources of the Mutt in the education of members of the Community. I was closely instrumental in inducing him to give an endowment of Rupees Fifty thousand to the Kingaya Hostel — The remarkable progress which this Community has made, not only in trade and business but also in education is due in a large to his inspiration and encouragement.

When I became Dungaji Commissioner the Swami of the Balehonnur Mutt had just then died and a highly educated gentleman — who was an heritor had been chosen as swami. There was long standing rivalry between this mutt and the Dungaji Mutt as they were entirely independent — The influence of the Murugi Mutt was was utilized to prevent the Balehonnur Mutt from claiming and special privileges the two had enjoyed from time to time. I was able to induce the Government to considerably enhance the privileges of this Mutt. There was a little boycott in the beginning, and eventually this opposition subsided as the Swami was a very conscientious and decent man —

There are two important Mohamedan institutions under the Dungaya department — There are the Kalandadan Darga in the Kalandadan Hills - Chickmagalur an important place of pilgrimage both for Hindus and Muslims. It is stated to have been founded by a Fakir some two centuries ago. He is reputed to have brought the coffee seed with which subsequently became the most commercial crop in the District and added greatly to its prosperity. Its affairs are managed by a hereditary dignitary known as the Sahajada, but as far

180 — as I could understand, he does not seem to have any spiritual duties, being responsible for the regular performance of the vows and fasts. The Government gives a grant of Rupees nine thousand for feeding the poor pilgrims. It has also valuable endowments but the income did not seem to have been properly utilized. As the Sahajada claimed to be on a par with the big Sadhuvies of Hindu Mutts it was difficult to make him render accounts. The question has been raised from time to time by various officers but no settlement could be found as he could bring the whole muslim population to support his claims and as Government have thought it best to leave the matter alone. So the credit of the gentleman who was Sahajada in my time, it may be stated that he was keenly interested in improving the place which has been provided with a school Dispensary and other amenities. The Gunnbay in Srirangapatnam where Tippu is buried has also large endowments. So also the Mosque. Both these have a number of servants who claim hereditary rights with no defined duties. When I was away on leave a Mahomedan gentleman was appointed to act for me, but his attempt to interfere with the so called hereditary rights raised a big commotion and when I came back and tried to solve the Gordian knot by recognizing a limited number who had served longest as having hereditary rights. It is a pity that both these institutions which attract large numbers of people and formerly these occasions served to bring them together and create a feeling of unity and stimulate their piety seem now to have completely lost their appeal —

The Shravanabelgola in the Channarayapatna Taluk is one of the most important Jain institutions in Southern India. There is a huge ~~statue~~ statue of Gomateshwara

...ok Jaina Collection

...and ...ance of his posting was suddenly

181 — one of the largest of the kind carved out of a stone perched on the top of a hill visible for miles around while passing through the surrounding country. The tradition is that Chandraprabha retired into these hills and was so rapt in devotion that he was not conscious of a creeper having grown round him and which wrapped him up.

Just when I took charge the previous swamiji of Shravanabelagola had died and his successor had not been chosen. Some of the influential Jain merchants who do fairly good business in the Mysore and Nagara districts were requested to help the Government to select a suitable person. The swamiji they had recommended was objected to by the Mysore people on various grounds, the most important of which was that he was not fit in the office — this I found that this objection was not without reason. I obtained the sanction of Government to select a suitable person in consultation not only with the leading Jain inhabitants in Mysore but also South Canara where they form an important section of the community and have numerous bastees and temples. The gentleman I selected, who was reputed for his scholarship and ascetic life was strongly acclaimed, but it was with some difficulty I persuaded him to come to Mysore. He was duly installed and tried to do his best to stimulate devotion in the community and improve the buildings and the temples, but as the finances had been practically exhausted by his predecessors he found his a difficult task — The village itself contains a large number of Jains who employ workmen to prepare brassware which is much in demand and forms a very important cottage industry. There are strong factions in the village and as some of them are opposed to the Swamiji the environment and atmosphere are far from

182 – being suitable for a contemplative life which was apparently the object of the founder of the institution. Mr. Padmarajaya a well known merchant of Mysore and who originally belonged to Shravanabelagola had made large endowments and had started a Dispensary and a Middle school there. I found his counsel and help of great use in casting oil on troubled waters.

The Jains of the Bombay Presidency though not disciples of this Mutt are interested in it and come on pilgrimage. Many of them have expressed their intention of extending their charities to the place, but as the local people do not take much interest in utilizing their help this has not materialised. I found that a large amount had been ~~raised~~ collected some time before in Bombay and dey the time I could present on the parties concerned I had to leave the department –

The Vokkaligas, to which class the ~~majority~~ bulk of the Raiyats in the State belong had no Swamy, so they selected me and sought my good offices to have him recognized. Mr. K. H. Ranganna who was then Registrar of Co-operative Societies and had been foremost in the awakening of Mysore in many fields of activity especially political ~~and~~ had taken a keen interest in the matter. With his co-operation and the help of the prominent Vokkaligas we had the Swamiji inducted after the necessary ceremonies and and installed him in the Chinchungiri Mutt.

This is an old Mutt picturesquely situated on the top of a hill in the Nagamangala Taluk near Nadigere and recognized as their Mutt; but somehow or other this momentous step did not elicit and results in any great spiritual response in the community as the bulk of the people still looked to their old purohits for their ministerations Besides there there are numerous

[illegible] ways [illegible]

183 - Other temples varying in importance with income ranging from several thousands to a few Rupees. Most of them have temple inams some as endowments to the temple and others as inams to the servants. The more important of them have Dharmadaris, but the majority of these functionaries pay little attention to their duties. Due to there being no proper record of such inams there have been extensive alienations. If one could get only glaring cases to look, I found that the income could be substantially increased. So I put an officer on special duty for the purpose, and in the Shimoga District alone where on account of the multiplicity of Ancient Kingdoms and the very devout spirit of those times such grants were extensive. As a result of these enquiries we were able to get back properties yielding more than a lakh of Rupees. Unfortunately these enquiries were not extended as many of the guilty parties were very influential and carried on an agitation against such enquiries - I was greatly disappointed with this attitude but as I had no interest in these religious institutions I did not wish to raise a storm, even ascribing motives to me -

Several cases came to my notice in the City of Bangalore where well-do-do Linguyats and other mercantile communities used to establish these temples and give them endowments which after the death of the donor were either marked by some of his heirs or some mischievous sanctions.

The Ayurvedic and Unani Institutions were also under the Surgeon's department. The State had always taken an interest in such institutions but as the head of the Medical department used to be an Allopath full of contempt for such methods of treatment and the whole of the medical service was manned [illegible] them, no one took them seriously. So as a first

'82 – Vienna visit
'84 step I had the Ayurvedic and Unani schools in Mysore thoroughly re-organized and engaged efficient staff. A well-known local Pandit offered to give a liberal endowment of Rupees Thirty Thousand for developing this system of medicine and so I addressed the Government and obtained sanction for the construction of a building on a prominent spot next to the Chamarajendra Technical Institute. The Building eventually cost about Rs 125,000, Government bearing the cost of the balance. The provision of this local habitation stimulated greatly the system and inspired the founding of the large Ayurvedic and Unani hospital which is also the result of a handsome private bequest. I encouraged the School authorities to have their own garden to grow medicinal plants and have excursions to hills and forests to collect such plants and bring and bring about a ~~volume~~ handbook describing their remedies and their uses. An enterprising officer of the Forest Department ultimately published such a book.

The Doddanna's charities were an educational institution founded by the late Janopakari Doddanna Setty who got a site in a prominent part of the city & constructed such a School and made a large endowment. On account of the dissension among the trustees this institution was not conducted properly. I intervened in its affairs and had it thoroughly re-organized and as it was difficult to keep it under private management I transferred it to the Government who appointed a local Committee for the purpose. The institution is now in a very satisfactory condition and has been made a High School.

The Government of Mysore has been famous at all times for its liberality to all religions and the freedom religions enjoy in the State. This is very conspicuous in the case of Christian

D. Mukherjee Collection

191. not quite sure of his footing ~~was~~ in India's
185. institutions. The famous Abbé du Bois to
whom we owe a very interesting and authentic
account of social and economic conditions in
his time, had settled down in Ingapur, near
Seringapatam where the church ~~stands~~ built by
him still exists. There are ~~numerous~~ numerous
~~conversions from~~ in to Catholicism from the
18th Century due to the Portugese Jesuits and
Franciscans, and there are whole villages in
the Hassan, Mysore and Bangalore Districts
~~populated~~ entirely by Catholics. Settlehalli
another settlement due to Abbé du Bois, in
Hassan maintains one of the oldest private
hospitals in Mysore. During the great famine
of 1874 the Catholic missionaries took a great
part in rescuing and bringing up orphans
and received large grants of land for the
purpose and there are many such settlements.
Neither Catholics nor protestants had any difficulty
in establishing Churches or schools all over the
State, and the schools especially received large
grants. The Catholics maintained the St. Joseph's
College for boys Sacred Heard College for girls and
the St. Martha's hospital while the Protestants
had the London and Wesleyan Mission Colleges the
Hardwick College in Mysore and a well-equipped
Medical Hospital in Mysore - They had also
hospitals in Chickballapur, Closepet and
Nundydrug. No restriction was placed on their
preaching and as far as possible both the
Catholics and protestants conducted themselves
towards other religions so as not to cause their
hostility. It was therefore but fitting that when
I was connected with the service there should come
into existence in the State several important and
new institutions. The St. Philomena's church was
built at Mysore at a cost of nearly three lakhs of
Rupees, raised mostly by private subscriptions.
Two convents were started in Mysore and Bangalore

St. Joseph's and the Ayurvedic and Unani schools in 1886. and in Bangalore The St. Peter's Seminary for training priests for the dioceses of Pondicherry, Mysore and Salem was started and a building put up at a cost of nearly three Lakhs of Rupees which marks an imposing entrance to the city from the Harihar side. — A new convent and High School for girls was established in the City by the Catechist Sisters of Mary and Government gave a grant of Rs 30,000 for a building in getting which I had great pleasure in assisting the nuns. Girls' High schools were started by nuns in Chikmagalur and Shimoga and they have also spread latterly to Davangere, Mandya and other places - A first grade College for women has also been started in Bangalore. Catholics therefore have been able to take a prominent part in Education and other activities in the State.

As regards representation in Service the Christians have been treated very fairly three of them having risen to be Members of Council and many of them have risen to high appointments like Heads of the Medical Department, Secretaries to Govt. etc.

In connection with the retrocession of the C & M. Station, the Catholics strongly and unanimously supported the proposal In order to safeguard their Educational and other privileges, some guarantees were suggested in their discussions with the Secretaries of State; this memorandum was treated as the basis for considering the interests ~~and other~~ of the minor communities.

In the year 1928 I had the honor of receiving from his Highness the Maharaja of Mysore the Gandaberunda under Class II Rajakarya Pravina for the services I had

Dr. Mortimer Collection

not quite sure of his footing ~~was~~ unlikely for 187- rendered in various capacities, I received congratulations from almost every community and local Bodies and some of them even arranged entertainments for congratulating me - While I greatly appreciated the honor done by His Highness the public manifestations I received of the warmth of the regard I enjoyed throughout the State gave me special pleasure -

Member of Council 1930 - 31.

I was not able to compete for the Civil Service in 1897 owing to some eye trouble So I competed only in 1901. All some of the 1897 batch, such as Mr. Balasundaram Iyer and Mr. Sudhan were junior to me in age, my turn came rather late to be a member of Council - just before my retirement -

The position of Members of Council was rather peculiar. If the Dewan was a man of great individuality - pronounced views and determination and grit to carry out his policy, and at the same time enjoyed the confidence of His Highness the Maharaja, the Members of Council were usually reduced to something like Super Heads of departments with much limited powers and initiative dealing with matters requiring Government sanction and taking part in the discussion of subjects that required joint consideration in Council. The last three Dewans, Viswesvarayya, Banerji & Mirza were all very strong men. The Members of Council

the Annuvedic and Quaini schools in 188 – associated with them as I ~~said~~ have already said seldom showed any individuality and found that the safest course was to be some sort of "yes" man to the Dewan – When the Dewan had no specific views of his own they exercised some independence but on the whole they merely helped the Dewan to bear the burden of the administration relieving him of much of the routine work. It was my experience as a Secretary that in many cases he occupied a much stronger position than some of the Ministers.

The Members of council associated with Shiva were not men of any extraordinary merit but who had risen to the top merely by seniority having been fairly efficient in their posts. Shuffling round heads of departments was also very common, as some such as Revenue, Excise and Police were considered more important than others in the order given above and there were frequent instances in which the same officer held all the three appointments in turn before he became a Minister. This unfortunately reduced the chances of an officer leaving a mark ~~x~~ on the Department and in spite of them being on the whole able men. They had little more than deal with the papers that came before them. The Members of Council that Shiva was first associated with were Dr – M. R. Krishna Rao and Mr. K. Chandy Mr. Krishna Rao had been Financial Secretary and done excellent service during the lean years that followed Visveswaraya's administration. He had not much experience of other departments and was a man of ~~strong~~ views, rather inclined to be dogmatic but ~~he~~ was a man of high character and commanded respect. Unfortunately in

Mahamahopadhyaya Collection

21. not quite sure of his position was undoubtedly
89. Because the Finance Member has other departments under his control and sometimes these are heavily spending departments like Industries and Commerce, Forests, etc. and as every government makes Economic Developments, the Financial Member besides scrutinizing the proposals is expected to help in giving effect to these schemes as far as possible. This leads to several anamolous situations leading frequently to very wasteful expenditure. We had bitter experience of this when Mr. Chakravarthi was Finance Secretary under Viswesvaraya. Chakravarthi was a man of vast tradition, and so he could be easily led to give his support to many fanciful schemes if he could be persuaded that they were for the country's benefit. The difficult financial position in which the State found itself at the end of Viswesvaraya's administration was to a great extent the result of the Financial Secretary's easy acquiescence. He was a Chairman of the Education Committee and responsible to no end of expenditure on various educational experiments. To the credit of Mr. Krishna Rao it must be stated that he was not carried away in the discharge of his duties by any desire to jingle with his conscience to please the powers that be and by his position as the Head of a spending department often led him to courses of action which his strict financial conscience could not have approved. Mysore was faced with serious difficulties when I became Member of Council due to forced expenditure to show record results and the Finance Member cannot be absolved from all blame for this result.

Mr. Chandy as I have already stated

— to some other manner

Though a man of high principles was rather erratic and widely marked time as his immediate junior Mr. Matthai, who had great influence with Sir Mirza was ~~shown precedence~~ soon to replace him. Sir Mirza went twice to Europe on Deputation in connection with Constitutional Reforms, and the Round Table Conference, and during those periods Mr. M. R. Krishna Rao acted but these spells were more or less a period of hibernation in the State. Mr. Chandy was succeeded by Mr. Balasundaram Iyer an Officer of great capacity but with shattered health and thus unable to take any very strong part in the administration. Sir Mirza being very anxious to have Mr. Matthai in the Council, he was taken in as 3rd member as there was much clamour against there being no non-Brahmin in the Council. Mr. Balasundaram had a stroke of paralysis from which he did not recover and I succeeded him.

Mr. Matthai was deputy Commissioner of Mysore when Sir Mirza was Dewan Secretary, and there after they were the warmest friends - Mr. Matthai was the trusted headman of Sir Mirza who used him freely in all his plans - Mr. Matthai owing to his not being too sympathetic to Brahmins was known as a Brahmin-hater and he was able to exploit this reputation to the utmost extent, so as to get the support of non-Brahmins -

In the Palace owing to the standing of Sir Mirza with his Princess he had nothing to fear. Sir Charles Todhunter loved to burden himself with wearisome and useless details, and Thumboo Chetty being somewhat of a junior

D. Annex Library Collection

191. not quite sure of his footing was undoubtedly to put himself against Mirza. Thus everything helped him to have his own way in the administration - All the parties in the beginning Morning how powerful he was tried to have him on their side, but gradually as after the Bangalore disturbances he had rallied the Brahmins around him the voice of opposition which in the beginning was subdued and inaudible gradually found strength.

The things that Sir Mirza was most interested in were aesthetic improvements in Cities and towns and buildings, and he was able to give full rein to his ideas in those directions. He had something to do in the Brindavan gardens which is now a celebrated beauty spot in this part of India - Many of the Public Buildings constructed in his time have architectural merit - though credit for this is due to Mr. Krumbiegel. Mirza pushed through several irrigation schemes, and also the starting of new electric undertakings. After the war there was a big boom and he took advantage of this to have some important industries in the state. But taken all in all giving him every credit for these schemes and a genuine love for the country and his Highness, by his inability to read the signs of the times, inability to judge men properly and the enemies he created by his behaviour to persons whom he disliked he did a great deal of harm to the State and paved the way for the present confusion in the administration. The position of Members of Council being what it is, there was not much that I could achieve during the short tenure of my office. Both my wife and I had some painful situations to face. A Journalist made some serious allegations against one of my colleagues that he had accepted a higher [illegible] and this was passed on to some other member

174 - the usual practice when the Head of the Revenue Department came to a place and that in my case there was the additional reason of gratitude felt by the people from everywhere for the help I had invariably tried to give them. Iniya never spoke to me about it - He was very anxious that Coorg should be amalgamated with Mysore and had chosen Sakkamma to Coorg planters as his intermediary. Sakkamma came to me and asked me to influence the Catholic community in Coorg. I told her that as they were of the same stock as myself my people from Mangalore and better educated and organized lot would be difficult to enlist their support the more as they all thought that Europeans were better off under the British. This was a more pretext - ment of fact She asked me to speak to Mr. Pinto a leading planter. I promised to do so. Some two years after I was surprised to hear that Iniya was bitterly enviding ad me that I who had received every encouragement and help and had been practically advanced to the highest position in the State should be so ungrateful - The irony of the situation moreover was that I had gave a certain formula to Mr. Pinto by adopting which both parties would be equally benefitted. Mr. Pinto was one of the leaders of the Congress and as he induced the local Association to adopt it, and it was found just so the memorandum. I had got rebuked through the Catholic Association in connection with the representation of the Civil & Military Station as showing that the people of Coorg were all favourable to the amalgamation. In the year

Ramakrishna Collection

[illegible] it was difficult to realise its whole
197- and now Bankipur
195—1927 I had a nervous break-down due
entirely to the strenuous work I had to do
in the Secretariat and elections from
1917 to 1927 when the burden of handling
the most difficult questions to be dealt
with then, had fallen on me. Having regained
a good deal of my health by taking perfect
rest at Juhu in Bombay I returned to
work as I was medically advised not to
give up work; and that I was physically
and otherwise fit was amply proved by
the work I put in as Revenue Commissioner.
As my break-down was purely nervous,
I found it necessary to have with me, my
own people for some time, especially at
nights and so I used to take some of them
with me on tour. Once I was told by
somebody that I used to travel with my
family and expected elaborate arrange-
ments to be made for their comforts, which
was far from true. Fortunately he spoke
about this to me. I told him why I had
done so and studiously avoided thereafter
taking any one with me — I could multiply
instances to show how the facility with
which he believed tales and the prominence
his methods held out to persons who tried
to benefit by this weakness to damage
the reputation of persons they disliked
caused a great deal of unrest, and was
keenly felt, especially by officers of repute
and character, as his friends were
all immune against such propaganda —
Another act of his though probably with no
deliberate intention which has been very injurious
to the State was the close friendship that he
used to form with the Chief Judge, as it led
indirectly to a great weakening of the Judi-
cial of the Judiciary. From the local Judicial

196. two gentlemen had risen to the position of Chief Judges. These were Mr. K. V. Rau ~~judicial~~ and Mr. Chandrasekhara Iyer

These judges, whatever their other short comings may be were of sterling independence and had no close association with the Government Mr. Chandrasekhara Iyer was retired, though still vigorous aged in the prime of his faculties, on account of certain prejudices against him, both among the Imperial Brahmins and non-Brahmins, as he was a man of strong likes and dislikes, a great scholar and a master of vigorous style. In order to maintain the independence of the judiciary the practice was to appoint European ~~Justices~~ Judges. Mr. Kumaran one of the Indian Judges became Chief Judge, and though his legal attainments were not high he was able to maintain the prestige of the office as being the descendent of a family of Judges (his father was a Judge of the Chief Court here, and another ancestor a distinguished Judge in England. He was highly respected. After his retirement Sir Bobbie Miller a distinguished Judge of the Madras High Court became Chief Judge. He had a very keen intellect and a profound knowledge of Law. Having been for several years in the Judicial Department he always kept himself aloof from the executive. He used to give this advice freely to the government if consulted on any question and accepted the appointment of Chairman of the Miller Committee appointed to redress irregularities in service due to the unusual preponderance of Brahmins, and also was for some time Vice-Chancellor. No one objected to these, as it was a trial of strength between Brahmins

Remarkable

1919 -- it was also to realise its wishes
197 - and non - Brahmins - He strongly criticised
the actions of the Chairman who had held high
office in Service and whose election was irreg-
ular, but he could not set it aside as the point
had not been definitely raised before him -
Britishers with such marked independence
uninfluenced by local cliques I found, were a
great asset to the Service, but unfortunately
an impression used to be created that they
were anti-Indian while colourless Europeans
like Sir Godfrey were very much appreciated
but sooner or later they had also to give away
as very often the weaker person is a more
difficult man to deal with than a strong
one.
Godfrey had a hand in Mirjas downfall
but he had incurred the hostility of another
Mayor Secretary and so he also was removed.
Godfrey had a small estate near Kingaroi
He retired there, but being used to wading
through a life of bustle his health broke down
and he went to Australia where he died -
He had ample private means and was of a
convivial & unofficious disposition and
had no great ambitions, apparently except
to live a quiet happy dignified life! The
moral of lives like this is obvious and it is
not for me to point it out.
In this connection I may refer also to the
experiences of Dr. Coleman, Director of Agriculture
and Mr. Forbes the Head of the Electrical Depart
ment.
Dr. Coleman was an eminent Mycologist,
who by his discovery of spraying as a remedy
for "Koleroga" a fungoid disease affecting
Betel-nut saved the industry the loss of
several Lakhs of Rupees annually and by his
service alone deserved the permanent gratitude
of the State Though he was a Specialist in
power to some other member

148-Mycology he was an all-round man and was a very successful Director of Agriculture. He was very fond of training his staff and giving them opportunities to show initiative and originality. As a result of crop experiments very useful varieties of paddy, rape and sugar-cane were produced in the Colombo and Jaffna areas ~~[illegible]~~ introduced agricultural production was greatly increased He did a great deal of work in popularizing machinery among the Agriculturists especially improved types of ploughing, sugar cane mills etc. In bringing the Cape areas irrigated by the Kanamaddi or Krishnapapara Reservoir, he did yeoman service and the establishment of the Sugar Factory and its successful operation were in a large measure due to his drive and powers of organization. He was a difficult man to deal with, having the obstinacy of the expert in an extraordinary degree very dogmatical, not easy to persuade; and so, unless he had a free hand he was very restive. Previous administrations had given him the free hand, but he had left over before partly due to ill-health and partly due to his differences. It became necessary to re-engage him and he came back more than ever determined to hold his own. He was very important in his Defence duties as Agriculture, an Indian Officer also of exceptional ability who had tried to supplant him several times. Foreigners have great difficulty in fighting against such intrigues especially where the authors of such intrigues have the support of their colleagues in the Secretariat and the Government. A rumour was started that the machinery that was purchased for the sugar factory was second-hand, and even if this was true, the fact that the factory was started with the maximum of speed and

199 - it was able to realise its whole capital within three years. Should have caused Colman from such petty attacks as he was a man of the highest international reputation. He was not prepared to continue in such an atmosphere and hence resigned. The Imperial Coffee Planters in view of his great services to the industry wanted to present him with a handsome souvenir but Sir Seshia even objected this. It was very unfortunate that Sir Seshia had always this hostile attitude with officers of any reputation and standing who when their views were undercurrents - Sir Seshia's views were always a closed book. Colman's successor Mr. Jagannarayan Iyer had a similar fate. So also the Civilian Officer who was at the head of the department for some time. Though he was one of the ablest of our Officers his strong independence did not make him popular - I shall not multiply other instances. The treatment Sir Seshia accorded to me was therefore not cordial and nothing reconciled me to Seshia's attitude towards me than this tendency on his part. I said that Sir Seshia was responsible probably inadvertently for drawing away the judiciary from that independence and impartiality on which the excellence of an administration greatly depends. The two Indian Chief Justices who were appointed in his time were close friends of his and he depended on them not only for advice on legal and constitutional questions but seems to have consulted them even in ordinary matters of administration - Mr. Doraswamier before he was taken to the Chief Court was a leading lawyer and had been a Government advocate. He was a son-in-law of Mr Subbaraya Iyer, Comptroller, a trusted Lieutenant of Sir. K. Seshadri Iyer and thus closely connected with the Madras party in Mysore.

...inferred to some other member

200 — For some time he had left practice in Mysore and joined Mr — N. S. Chari who had suddenly blossomed into a great financier and industrialist after the first war — Lala Hara Krishen Lal took him up and he floated many companies. In Mysore he had developed a chrome tannery of which Mr. Doreswamier and Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar who had been Registrar of the Residents Court were Directors. Though the Mysore Tannery had just then begun to pay, Mr. Chari went away to Calcutta loading the Concern with a big Over-draft from the Imperial Bank — I was Director of Industries at the time and so had to take over the baby as the Mysore Government had given Concern that large loan to the Concern — Mr. Chari had brought out an American Expert Mr. Field by name and both of them had made several improvements in the process of Tanning. So when the Imperial Bank suggested to me that it would be best for the Concern to take in the help of Messrs. Best & Co who were big exporters of hides in Madras, I got Government approval to appoint them as Managing Agents Unfortunately the Government in England had released large stocks of leather they had accumulated during the war and the prices went to the bottom. Best & Co who had pushed manufacture to the maximum ended found themselves loaded with heavy stocks and had eventually to bring the Concern into liquidation I thought I had done with the Tannery but later on again it figured in my life and was great source of worry and anxiety to me as I shall explain Later on — Tempted by the offers of Chari both Doraswamier and and Shrinivasa Iyengar joined Chari drawing very high salaries from him. In a year or two they fell out — There were Law-suits between them, and each party

Side of Ramakrishna Cou...

201 – ...claimed the other, painting the opposite side in the blackest colours and attributing the losses and failures to the other party. Anyhow the break in the alliance was soon followed by the failure of most of the concerns into which Chari had launched. He had started a big tannery in Calcutta, the manufacture of glacé kids, cotton mills, coal mines etc.

Doraswami Iyer returned to Mysore, a sadder and wiser man and resumed practice. Fortunately for him the above prelude as would have been the case with more persons did not affect him. He was Sir Kuriya Jervis's legal adviser. He was a man of great ability and a good advocate, so he was taken to the Chief Court and eventually became Chief Judge. The close friendship between the Dewan and Head of the Judicial Administration did not pass without severe comments in the Press. To make the unusual favour shown by extra rapid promotion to Mr. Doraswami Iyer's son-in-law [illegible] another handle. It was an open secret that Kuriya was very much influenced by him - Doraswami Iyer gave scope to the complaint that he neglected his own work and that there were several cases in which he had pronounced judgement orally, on which he had failed to write out his judgements seems to have been discovered after his death. Mr. P. Mahadevaya another officer who also became Chief Justice took active part in politics. He was a member of the Kuriyaya Communal and so wielded great influence. He was a very strong communalist and a bitter hater of Brahmins. When I was Secretary to Government I wanted to have a non-Brahmin as Assistant Secretary. He was a nuisance and the Dewan and Co. chose him. He did not show any marked ability in that post and when his turn came to be a sub-judge. He left the Secretariat; but as a

– to some other [illegible]

202 – Judicial Officer the Chief Court did not seem to have a high opinion of his work and proposed to supersede him when there was a vacancy in the District Judge's grades – Dr. Hamza Hussein who was a member of Council and myself prevented this as there were so few non-Brahmins at that time who could reach this office. From there he became Law Secretary. This brought him into direct touch with the Government. The position of Sir Mirza at the time was rather peculiar. He had incurred the wrath of the Brahmins who attributed their loss of predominance in the Service to him and the Kannigas. His firmness showed him the way out and position him – This did not please the non-Brahmins, and Dr. Radhakrishna [illegible] Kannigas was of great help to Mirza to prevail greater influence. Another Officer who was similarly made use of by him was Dr. K. H. Rathnagiya. He belonged to the Vokkaliga Community and had organised them in a very successful manner. They had a Sangha – He was a powerful Speaker having all the arts of a Demagogue, but he was a man of high principles and character. He was appointed Registrar of Co-operative Societies and this gave him an excellent opportunity of coming into contact with the masses and swaying them. He also corrected the impression that Dr. Mirza was more favourable to Brahmins than to non-Brahmins; and was also a staunch supporter of his. There was much coolness, however between them during the last days of his office as Mirza would not help this advancement further. He died somewhat premature[illegible] of coronary thrombosis. The non-Brahmins

Title of Ramakrishna

203. movement owes a great deal to his unceasing efforts and sacrifices and his powerful utterances. He also took a vital interest in National upliftment and never ceased to concern himself with the betterment of the people. Though he did not reap the fruits of his endeavours in that cause, curiously enough this came to him through his children. Mr. V. P. Varadappa was his son-in-law. Ramiah's daughter Varadara having married him. Varadappa and his wife had definite and firm views with the progress, whereas family traditions, which he was made them very conservative. Both of them took a prominent part in the introduction of Responsible Government into Mysore and had their reward in due course. The services of Mr. Mahadevaya were of a different type. He was a great upholder of Authority and had no great sympathy with popular movements. So he used all his might to resist the Extremists in the Congress. Being a Judicial Officer one would have thought that he should not have sided himself with any party, but conditions were such that a certain latitude of latitude was necessary and Mr. Mahadevaya unfortunately did not always keep to the safe side. As a Chief Judge he lent himself up against the whole bar by his violent attacks against the Brahmin Members who moved Liberal and by giving open expression to his opinions and feelings about them a la Macaulay about Hindus. He was always a combative writer and firmly believed that weakness of arguments could be covered by a forest of words. He always stood up for the Divine Right of Kings and denounced all those who suggested any limitation of the Powers of His Highness. He was not unsympathetic to some other members

204 – this point with one of the stalwarts of the Congress Dr. Gopalaswamy Iyengar, claiming for his Highness something like what Charles I wanted for himself, and got himself severely handled in a most caustic manner – by that master of wit and satire.

In marked contrast to Dr. Mahadevappa was Dr. Parmashivaiah, who was also a Lingayat. Before he was appointed a Judge, he was one of the leaders of the Non-Brahmin party but after he entered Service he kept aloof from politics. When powers to convict for Contempt were claimed for the Judicial Commissioner he applied the contention that not being a High Court they could not be vested with such powers and their acts were subject to appeal and re-vision by the High Court. These powers were sought to be justified as by being granted by His Highness by virtue of his Prerogative and though he dismissed he was bound by the order, he pointed out the inexpediency and dangers of the course fearlessly. Soon after he resigned. People connected the two and regarded him as a martyr for upholding the Law. Dr. Mahadevappa on the other hand was always in high favour with the Government till the Congress came in and appointed to the Legislative Council, University Council, and many other bodies. His sons and sons-in-law were also appointed Munsiffs, Amildars, Assistant Commissioners and Sub-Judges.

People expected a change when Dr. Venkatarama Rao, a retired Judge of the Madras High Court was appointed Chief Justice. He even golden opinions by his

205. vast legal knowledge and quickness of decision and unfailing. He had been a member of the Justice Party and though he was while in Madras he showed sterling independence here unfortunately he was taken into consultation by Mr Thumboo Chetty who was Private Secretary and secured a certain amount of unpopularity by means of such association. Extraordinary as it might appear he sounded a note of warning before he retired against executive interference with the ordinary course of law realizing the dangerous shoals into which disregard for the independence of the judiciary would lead to a gloomy prospect of some subsequent occurrences in the Native Police which brought on it widespread criticism and in many cases strong condemnation Statesman fitd certain practices convenient but when these practices introduce dangerous precedents they seldom realize the consequences how these can undermine the administration. Mirza did not think that his policy of exalting second-rate men to such offices, and thereby in a way actually perchance their psychology would in the hands of his successors be used in a most dangerous manner

As I have already said under the constitution as it then stood the Members of Council could merely act as advisers the advice not even having any final effect- and as additional Heads of Departments - by the actual Head of the department was a strong man and had the support of the Dewan the Members were not able to exercise much control over him. There were instances in which Heads of departments even succeeded in getting their portfolios transferred to some other member

206.. There was no sound responsible [illegible] carried except in theory. Even the most trivial and unimportant matters were submitted to the Dewan who also ignoring the authority of the Members called for papers in matters decided by him and often reversed his decisions. The persons who were selected as Members were usually persons who were expected to toe the line with the Dewan and keep in view of their record, also to safeguard their position or future career. I keep an exception so long as Mirza was in service. Of Mirza's colleagues both Mr. Balasundaram Iyer and Mr. Hall, each had their sons appointed as Probationers and soon were taken to the Civil Service Assistant Commissioners, though both of them had a very mediocre College Career. In the case of their successors Mr. Madhava Rao and Mr. Anantharaman their sons were nominated directly to the Civil Service.

Troublesome heads of Departments were also pacified in this manner. Under the plea of improving the service Probationers were selected, appointed and when I had a voice in the appointment of Probationers I took good care to pick out the best men from each community and bring the men to be taken for Tamils or other considerations to the barest minimum. The result was that the recruits I had selected were usually men of outstanding merit who have done great credit to such selection.

Under the conditions I have stated it was not possible for me to do much as a Member of Council, and as my juniors were doing their best to step into my place, I was glad to be relieved. When I retired Mirza had hardly completed the first quadrennium of his office and after the

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was chosen as the first member of the Legislative Council and my wife as a member of the Representative Assembly. On accont of the personal influence both these representatives had among all classes, they were able to promote many a deserving case. Though the clergy were expected to give their guidance and help to the local committees it was not considered advisable that they should be actively associated with those organisations. For want o of organisers and workers of outstanding abilities it was not possible for the Association to show much activity in the other functions it was also expected to exercise. It continued in this way until after the advent of the present Bishop. A new association has been formed differing very widely in character form its predecessors. The chief point of difference is the position given to the Clergy in the organisation. I have always been of the opinion that the clergy should mostly act as advisors and should not take any active part in the functions of such organisations. As we are from only a very small section of the population this peculiarity is not likely to create any seriou difficulties or problems here, but experience in other countries has shown that it has often brought the Catholics into conflict with authority.

Two important matters in which the old Catholic Association was able to place its views before the Government were:- (1) The place of Indian Catholics in the Civil and Military station after its retro-cession. (2) Reform of the Constitution in 1942 for which a Committee under the Presidency of Mr. K.R. Srinivasa Iyengar was appointed.

As regards the privileges and rights to ve recognised it was urged on behalf of the Catholics that (1) All the grnats and privileges enjoyed by educational institutions in the C. & M. station whould be continued. (2) Landa and buildings belonging to Catholic institutions should ne continue continued and the validity of their Titles whould not be questioned. (3) As the Catholic Educational Institutions had pupils from all parts of India any special facilities they enjoyed, such as following the courses prescribed for European schools and to continue to be affiliated to the Madras University should not be interfered with. (4) Catholics should have all the rights and privileges the citizens of the Mysore State enjoyed and should be given one representative. This memorandum was prepared by a Committee under the Presidency of Rt. Rev. Dr. Despatures, and was accepted as the basic of settlement.